

# Palestine and Palestinians

## An Annotated Bibliography and Filmography

Compiled by Noha Ismail



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# Introduction

As the war on Gaza was unfolding in the fall of 2023, my heart turned to Gaza seeking a connection, feeling overwhelmed and wondering how I could help move our struggle forward after this cataclysmic tragedy ends. Because I am a Palestinian, I have been asked by a number of friends, colleagues, and acquaintances for a list of books that would shed light on the roots of this seemingly intractable conflict. Some were curious, and others were genuinely interested in knowing the truth. In order for them to know the truth, I needed to delve deep into the history of the conflict, starting with the founding fathers of Zionism and the creation of the Israeli state in the heart of the Palestinian homeland through all the wars that ensued, the injustice, the occupation, and the misery that befell the Palestinians as a result of that original sin.

I am a retired librarian, having spent my entire career as a reference librarian with the Hennepin County Library System in Minneapolis. I decided that I could contribute to the cause in my own way by creating a comprehensive annotated bibliography that would focus exclusively on Palestine and the Palestinians. I found myself revisiting books that offer unique insight into the history of Israel and Palestine. I discovered that there is no shortage of good books about the genesis of the conflict, written by excellent Palestinian and non-Palestinian writers and historians. In spite of the Zionist lobby's efforts to rewrite history and stifle the truth, our side of the story is out there and well represented. The only problem is for us to bring those books to the forefront and promote them to schools, colleges, libraries, friends, and book clubs.

As I began work on the bibliography I quickly realized that I needed to focus on a lot more than just the historical and political aspect of the Palestinian experience. I needed to introduce the reader to the Palestinians as a people with a heritage to be proud of. For the most part, we are either invisible or dehumanized in the eyes of the Western media. If we exist at all in Western consciousness, we are either terrorists or faceless bystanders who have been objectified as passive victims in a hostile landscape. Anyone searching for the truth must come to see us for who we are, not for who our colonizers portray us to be.

There is a great deal of published material about the Palestinians as artists, writers, poets, musicians, critics, and filmmakers. Moreover, we must not overlook the important contribution of Palestinian fiction writers. Many of our award-winning novelists write stories that are deeply rooted in the Palestinian experience, and they are able to reach readers who identify with themes of loss, love, and justice in ways history books cannot. Children's books are equally important since they can present subtle truths in simpler terms and reinforce a positive Palestinian identity for our children. Finally, we must not overlook film as a powerful medium of communication. Over the last quarter-century, Palestinian cinema has emerged as a major global artistic force.

This bibliography and filmography is by no means exhaustive, and a lot stands to be written about the latest chapter of our tormented history, but I hope it will serve as a reliable and informative resource for both Western and Palestinian readers.

Noha Ismail  
February 2024  
Fort Myers, Florida

# History and Politics

## **Abu Jaber, Kamel.**

*The Palestinians: People of the Olive Tree.*

Hesperus Press, 2022, 144 p.

This collection of vignettes shows the human face of the Palestinian tragedy. The personal accounts in this book reveal the human dimension of a suffering nation and the lives of a people in exile or in camps, preoccupied with struggle and survival in a hostile world.

## **Abu-Laban, Yasmeen, and Abigail B. Bakan.**

*Israel, Palestine and the Politics of Race: Exploring Identity and Power in a Global Context.*

I.B. Tauris, 2019, 352 p.

The authors discuss the historic and contemporary dynamics in Israel/Palestine, and offer close analysis of the concepts of race and identity in the region.

## **Abu Saif, Atef.**

*The Drone Eats With Me: A Gaza Diary.*

Forward by Noam Chomsky.

Comma Press, 2017, 224 p.

In July 2014, in response to the kidnapping and murder of three teenagers, Israel launched a wide-scale attack on the people of Gaza lasting 51 days, killing 2,145 Gazans and demolishing 17,200 homes. The world-wide public outcry at this cruel and inhumane collective punishment was met with pro-Israeli bias by much of the Western governments and press. Abu Saif's eye-witness diary pieces were published in a range of major outlets. Here are his complete diaries of the war.

## **Abunimah, Ali.**

*The Battle for Justice in Palestine.*

Haymarket Books, 2014, 312p.

Journalist Abunimah takes a comprehensive look at the shifting tides of the politics of Palestine and Israel and makes a compelling case for why the Palestine solidarity movement just might win.

## **Abunimah, Ali.**

*One Country: A Bold Proposal to End the Israeli-Palestinian Impasse.*

Picador, 2007, 240 p.

The book proposes a visionary approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict—one state for two peoples. Abunimah shows how the two are by now so intertwined geographically and economically that separation cannot lead to the security Israelis need or the rights Palestinians crave. Taking on the objections that stand in the way of a one state solution, the author makes a compelling case for sharing the land rather than dividing it.

### **Aburish, Said K.**

*Children of Bethany: The Story of a Palestinian Family.*

Indiana University Press, 1989, 256 p.

The story of the family of Khalil Aburish who lived with his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the little village of Bethany, just outside Jerusalem. The family was torn apart by the Nakba, when the Palestinians lost their homeland as a result of the creation of the Jewish State in 1948.

### **Abu-Sitta, Salman.**

*Mapping My Return: A Palestinian Memoir.*

American University in Cairo, 2016, 352 p.

Salman Abu Sitta was just ten years old when the Nakba happened, forcing him to flee his home near Beersheba. Like most Palestinians of his generation, this traumatic loss would be the defining feature of his life. He writes about the dramatic events of 1930s and 1940s Palestine under the British Mandate as well as about the vanished world of his family and home.

### **Adwan, Sami, Dan Bar-On, and Eyal Naveh.**

*Side by Side: Parallel Histories of Israel-Palestine.*

The New Press, 2012, 416 p.

A group of Israeli and Palestinian teachers, struck by how different the interpretations of their shared history is from one another, decide to change the way their conflict is taught in the classroom. By literally presenting their dual narratives side by side they allow the students to consider and process the very different viewpoints and logic of each side. With this new understanding of history the teachers hope that they might open up different paths to constructive dialogue.

### **Afeeze, Mohammad.**

*The Pains of Palestinians: The Struggle for Peace and Freedom.*

M. Afeeze, 2023, 115 p.

The book offers an intimate look at the human side of this ongoing conflict. It ventures beyond the politics and offers a portrait of how the personal lives of Palestinians were impacted by their loss of land, homes, business, and identity. The reader will gain a profound understanding of the pain that these people have gone through and how they cling to the promise of freedom and justice.

### **Al-Asheq, Ramy.**

*Ever Since I Did Not Die.* Translated by Isis Nusair.  
Seagull Books, 2021, 96 p.

Syrian-Palestinian poet Ramy Al-Asheq grew up in a refugee camp in Damascus. He was imprisoned and persecuted by the Syrian regime. He was released from jail only to be recaptured and imprisoned in Jordan. He escaped and won a literary fellowship that allowed him to travel in 2014 to Germany, where he now lives and writes in exile.

### **Alaiyan, Halima.**

*A Constant Longing: Memoirs of a Palestinian Woman.*  
L'Aleph, 2014, 348 p.

In 1948, when Alaiyan was barely a year old, her village, Ibdis in Palestine, was destroyed by Israeli soldiers. With that, she began a life in exile, and like all Palestinians it was characterized by dislocation, endless struggle, and transformation. First she settled in Egypt, then in Saudi Arabia, and finally in Germany where, after escaping her abusive husband, she became an orthopedic specialist.

### **Allan, Diana, ed.**

*Voices of the Nakba: A Living History of Palestine.* Translated by Hoda Adra and Rayya Badran.  
Pluto Press, 2021, 368 p.

During the 1948 war, more than 750,000 Palestinians fled or were violently expelled from their homes by Zionists militias. This book documents a watershed moment in the history of the modern Middle East via the voices of the first-generation people who lived through it.

### **Aly, Abdel Monem Said, Shai Feldman and Khalil Shikaki.**

*Arabs and Israelis: Conflict and Peacemaking in the Middle East.*  
2nd ed.  
Bloomsbury Academic, 2022, 504 p.

A distinguished team of authors—Egyptian, Israeli, and Palestinian—provide an overview of key developments in the history of the conflict and explore attempts at resolution. Then they go on to portray the perspectives of the important parties. Detailed, full-color maps, timelines, and photos are included.

### **Ameri, Anan.**

*The Wandering Palestinian: A Memoir.*  
BHC Press, 2020, 218 p.

The author chronicles her life from 1974 in Beirut, Lebanon to Dearborn, Michigan where she learns to find her voice and become a driving force in Detroit's large and politically active Arab American community. Ameri played a pivotal role in the creation of the Arab American National museum in Dearborn.

**Amiry, Suad.**

*Golda Slept Here.*

Bloomsbury USA, 2015, 208 p.

In this book Suad Amiry traces the lives of members of some Palestinian families and, through them, the histories of both Palestine and the uprooted Palestinian community. The author evokes the sights and smells of Palestinian architecture and food, and offers a nostalgic account of what Palestine means to its people.

**Amiry, Suad.**

*Nothing to lose But Your Life: An Eighteen-Hour Journey With Murad.*

Bloomsbury Qatar, 2010, 176 p.

The story of a Palestinian woman's harrowing trek as she shadows illegal workers crossing into the town of Petah Tikva in Israel. This book encapsulates eighteen hours that contain countless moments of mortal danger. Amiry is a Palestinian award-winning writer and an architect.

**Amiry, Suad.**

*Sharon and My Mother-in-Law: Ramallah Diaries.* Reprint Ed.

Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2006, 224 p.

Based on diaries that the author kept from 1981-2004, here she evokes daily life in the West Bank town of Ramallah. Capturing the frustrations and down-right misery of her experiences, Amiry gives us an original and ironic glimpse into the absurdity and agony of life in the Occupied Territories. She also shows the kind of courage, vision, and humanity needed to bring peace to the Middle East. Amiry was awarded the Italy's Viareggio-Versilia Prize in 2004 for this book.

**Anziska, Seth.**

*Preventing Palestine: A Political History from Camp David to Oslo.*

Princeton University Press, 2018, 458 p.

Based on newly declassified sources and interviews with participants, the author charts how the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement in 1978 was forged at the cost of sovereignty for Palestinians and how the 1993 Oslo Accords undermined the meaning of independence for the Palestinians. Anziska offers a bold new interpretation of an enduring struggle for self-determination.

**Armstrong, Karen.**

*Jerusalem: One City, Three Faiths.*

Ballantine Books, 1997, 528 p.

Karen Armstrong traces the history of how Jews, Christians, and Muslims have all laid claim to Jerusalem as their holy place, and how their radically different concepts of holiness have shaped and scarred the city for thousands of years.

**Asali, K. J., ed.**

*Jerusalem in History*. Introduction by Rasheed Khalidi.  
Interlink Books, 1990, 328p.

The book provides a comprehensive outline of the amazing history of Jerusalem. It moves from the Bronze Age to the tensions of the present-day city. Throughout, it has been the site of glories and catastrophes, a place that has been witness to transition and occupation by a diversity of peoples.

**Ashrawi, Hanan.**

*This Side of Peace: A Personal Account.*  
Touchstone, 1996, 320 p.

A college professor at Birzeit University, Hanan Ashrawi is a well known Palestinian activist and diplomat, having played an important role in the peace talks with Israel in the 90s. She served as an elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council as well as the Executive Committee of the PLO. In 1996 she was appointed the Minister of Higher Education and Research by the Palestinian Authority. In her book, Ashrawi provides an insider's view of Mideast diplomacy, and the PLO hierarchy. She also writes about her own life story and her struggles as a Christian Arab woman in a male dominated society.

**Avneri, Uri.**

*Israel without Zionists.*  
Macmillan, 1968, 224 p.

The author escaped Nazi Germany with his parents as a boy and fled to what was then Palestine. He gives a historical overview of Zionism and how it became such an obstacle to a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In the final chapter he lays out a clearly defined path to peace he calls "pax Semitica". Even though his book was written in 1968, the political and social problems he describes still apply today.

**Avnery, Uri.**

*Israel's Vicious Circle: Ten Years of Writing on Israel and Palestine.*  
Pluto Press, 2008, 240 p.

Uri Avnery is one of the best-known peace activists in Israel. This is a collection of his articles, and it draws on his enormous experience of advocating Palestinian rights from within the system as a member of Parliament, and from outside as a peace activist. The book's rigorous introduction shows how peace can be achieved.

**Awad, Alex.**

*Palestinian Memories: The Story of a Palestinian Mother and Her People.*  
Bethlehem Bible College, 2008, 388 p.

The story of a courageous and determined mother who held her family together during all the years of turmoil in the Occupied Territories. It is an interesting read for anyone who wishes to

understand the roots of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the plight of the Palestinians in general and Christian Palestinians in particular.

### **Awad, Bishara.**

*Yet in the Dark Streets Shining: A Palestinian Story of Hope and Resilience in Bethlehem.*

Cliffrose Press, 2021, 217 p.

The author narrates his personal story from when he lost his ancestral home in Jerusalem as a result of the Nakba and then grew up as a refugee in Bethlehem. He writes about his spiritual journey as a Palestinian Christian living under the shadows of poverty and constant threat from the Israeli occupation.

### **Baltzer, Anna.**

*Witness in Palestine: A Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories.* Rev. ed.

Routledge, 2007, 436 p.

Anna Baltzer, a young Jewish American woman, visited the West Bank to discover for herself the everyday realities for Palestinians living under occupation. What she found would change her outlook on the issue forever. Baltzer witnessed firsthand the devastation wrought by expanding settlements and the Wall. Her probing and honest examination of the occupation, Zionism, and the pervasive spirit of Palestinian resilience offer a fresh look at Palestine today.

### **Barghouthi, Hussein.**

*Among the Almond Trees: A Palestinian Memoir.*

Seagull Books, 2022, 154 p.

A bitterly sweet memoir about nature, life and death in Palestine, and the universal concept of home. Barghouthi was in his late forties when he was diagnosed with lymphoma. His way of dealing with finality is to return to memories of childhood in the village of his birth in central Palestine, where his house was surrounded with almond trees. He takes many healing walks where he observes nature, and he renews his bond to the land that he loves.

### **Barghouti, Mourid.**

*I Saw Ramallah.* Translated by Ahdaf Souif.

With a foreword by Edward Said.

Anchor, 2003, 208 p.

Barred from his homeland after the 1967 Six-Day War, Mourid Barghouti spent thirty years in exile shuttling among the word's cities, feeling secure in none of them. He then has a chance to visit his hometown of Ramallah, and sadly he is unable to recognize the city of his youth. He discovers what it means to be deprived not only of a homeland but also of "the habitual place and status of a person." The book won the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature.

### **Barghouti, Mourid.**

*I Was Born There, I Was Born Here.*

Bloomsbury UK, 2012, 240 p.

A sequel to the classic memoir *I Saw Ramallah*. This time the author takes us back to 1998 when he returned to the occupied territories to introduce his son, Tamim, to his Palestinian family. He weaves into his account poignant evocations of Palestinian history and the meaning of home. The book is about the importance of being able to say “I was born here” rather than saying from exile “I was born there.”

### **Barghouti, Omar.**

*Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions: The Global Struggle for Palestinian Rights.*

Haymarket Books, 2011, 320 p.

Thirty years ago, an international movement using boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) tactics rose in solidarity with those suffering from apartheid in South Africa. The historic acts of BDS activists from around the world isolated the South African regime as a pariah state and heralded the end of apartheid. Omar Barghouti’s morally compelling book makes the same argument to achieve justice, freedom and peace for the Palestinians.

### **Barghouti, Omar.**

*The Case for Sanctions against Israel.* Edited by Audrea Lim.

Verso Books, 2012, 256 p.

The campaign for boycott, divestment, and sanctions continues to grow in strength in Israel and Palestine, as well as in Europe and the United States.

### **Barnett, Michael, Nathan Brown, and Shibley Telhami, eds.**

*The One State Reality: What Is Israel/Palestine?*

Cornell University Press, 2023, 372 p.

The editors argue that it is already too late to talk about a two-state solution, given the existence of almost half a million Jewish settlers in the West Bank. Starting with this new reality, we must reshape how we regard the conflict, and begin to discuss difficult questions of what constitutes an acceptable alternative and what does not.

### **Baroud, Ramzy.**

*The Last Earth: A Palestinian Story.*

Pluto Press, 2018, 280 p.

The book offers a history of modern Palestine that is built on testimony of people who have lived through it. Baroud gathers accounts from Palestinians from all walks of life, throughout the decades, to tell the story of the nation and its struggles for independence. He writes about the deep commonalities that draw Palestinians together despite political divisions, geographical barriers, walls, factionalism, occupation, and exile.

**Baroud, Ramzy.**

*My Father Was a Freedom Fighter: Gaza's Untold Story.*  
Pluto Press, 2010, 232 p.

Baroud tells the story of his father, who was driven out of his village by the Israelis and landed in a refugee camp. He took up arms and fought the occupation, at the same time raising a family. His vivid account reveals the complex human beings, revolutionaries, great moms and dads, lovers, and comedians that make Gaza so much more than just a disputed territory.

**Barrows-Friedman, Nora.**

*In Our Power: U.S. Students Organize for Justice in Palestine.*  
Just World Books, 2014, 274.

In the years following the 2009 Israeli assault on Gaza, a new kind of student movement emerged on US campuses in support of the idea that Palestinians should gain their full human and political rights within their historic homeland. In 2014 journalist Nora Barrow-Friedman criss-crossed the US interviewing the young activists who form the core of this new student movement.

**Baroud, Ramzy, and Ilan Pappé, eds.**

*Our Vision for Liberation: Engaged Palestinian Leaders and Intellectuals Speak Out.*  
Clarity Press, 2022, 462 p.

Of all the propositions for an acceptable solutions to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in the past fifty years, none have promoted justice or brought resolution, and none bode well for any of the parties involved. Here an alternative Palestinian view of liberation and decolonization is provided by engaged Palestinian leaders and intellectuals, taking into account the parameters of their struggle as it now stands.

**Bashir, Yousef.**

*The Words of My Father: Love and Pain in Palestine.*  
Harper, 2019, 226 p.

A Palestinian-American activist recalls his adolescence in Gaza during the Intifada. Ordered to leave the family home, Yousef's father refused, even when the Israeli soldiers moved in, seizing the top two floors. For five long years the Bashir family were virtual prisoners in their own home. Still, Yousef's father believed in coexistence and treated the soldiers as honored guests. Influenced by his father's unwavering commitment to coexistence, Yousef became an outspoken activist for peace.

**Beit-Hallahmi, Benjamin.**

*Original Sins: Reflections on the History of Zionism and Israel.*  
Olive Branch Press, 1996, 240 p.

An insightful, scholarly survey of Zionism and its dark side. This Israeli scholar issues an effective call for readers to take a more enlightened stand on an issue often clouded by ignorance and anti-Palestinian prejudice.

**Ben Cramer, Richard.**

*How Israel Lost: The Four Questions.*

Simon & Schuster, 2004, 320.

The four questions; Why do we care about Israel?, Why don't the Palestinians have a state?, What is a Jewish state?, and Why is there no peace? Ben Cramer insists that Israel is losing her soul by maintaining her occupation the lands conquered in the Six Day War. He makes clear why occupation endures and how it corrupts and corrodes the societies of both Palestinian and Jew.

**Bennis, Phyllis.**

*Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Primer.*

5th rev. ed.

Olive Branch Press, 2012, 114 p.

Phyllis Bennis, long-time analyst of the region, answers basic questions about Israel and the Israelis, Palestine and the Palestinians, and the US Middle East policy. This fifth edition includes sections on the continuing settlement crisis, Palestine in the Arab Spring, the BDS and Palestinian nonviolent movements, and what the future may bring.

**Bickerton, Ian J., and Carla L. Klausner.**

*A History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict.*

9th ed.

Routledge, 2022, 692 p.

The author presents a balanced overview of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Starting in the nineteenth century, the book moves through the British Mandate, World War II, the creation of the state of Israel, the widening conflict, the attempts at peace, the Arab Spring, and up to 2022. Includes updated maps and table.

**Bishara, Amahl.**

*Back Stories: U.S. News Production and Palestinian Politics.*

Stanford University Press, 2012, 344 p.

Studying how journalists work in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Ramallah, and Nablus, Amahl Bishara demonstrates how the production of US news about Palestinians depends on multifaceted collaborations, typically invisible to Western readers. She examines news stories, big and small, to investigate urgent questions about objectivity, violence, the state, and the production of knowledge in today's news.

**Bishara, Amahl.**

*Crossing a Line: Laws, Violence, and Roadblocks to Palestinian Political Expression.*

Stanford University Press, 2022, 350 p.

*Crossing a Line* deals with the issue of political expression and action of Palestinians who carry Israeli citizenship and Palestinians subject to Israeli military occupation in the West Bank. In both groups, activists struggle for national liberation, yet obstacles inhibit their ability to speak to each other. Bishara illuminates how a people can struggle together for liberation even when they cannot join together in protest.

**Black, Ian.**

*Enemies and Neighbors: Arabs and Jews in Palestine and Israel 1917-2017.*

Grove Press, 2018, 640 p.

Ian Black, a British Journalist, offers the history of the Palestinian-Zionist conflict told from both sides. Starting with the Balfour Declaration of 1917, the story proceeds through the Arab rebellion of the late 1930s, the Holocaust, the creation of the State of Israel and the Nakba, the 1967 war and the Palestinian re-awakening, Israel's settlement project, two intifadas, the Oslo Accords, the siege of Gaza, and the continued violence up to 2017. All along, Black combines engaging narrative with political analysis and cultural insights.

**Bucaille, Laetitia.**

*Growing Up Palestinian: Israeli Occupation and the Intifada Generation.*

Princeton University Press, 2004, 192 p.

The author tells the story of three young men who were actively involved with the protests during the second Intifada. Through their stories, the reader is introduced to what their lives are like in the camps, prisons, homes, and the street. The tangled and tragic web of the most enduring conflict in the Middle East unfolds before us.

**Bunton, Martin.**

*The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Very Short Introduction.*

4th ed.

Oxford University Press, 2013, 144 p.

Martin Bunton provides a clear and fair exploration of the main issues by illuminating the history of the Palestinian-Israeli problem and reducing it to its very essence. He demolishes various myths and shows that it is a conflict between two peoples claiming the same land. Recommended for readers at all levels who are interested in understanding the genesis of the conflict, it includes key documents and useful maps.

**Carter, Jimmy.**

*Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid.*

Simon & Schuster, 2007, 288 p.

Former US president Jimmy Carter shares his intimate knowledge in the Middle East and his personal experiences with the major players on each side. He addresses sensitive political issues many American officials avoid. Pulling no punches, he prescribes steps that must be taken for the two states to share the Holy Land without a system of apartheid or the constant fear of terrorism.

**Carter, Jimmy.**

*We Can Have Peace in The Middle East: A Plan That Would Work.*

Simon & Schuster, 2009, 256 p.

Carter reflects on his efforts to negotiate a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. He primarily calls for deep concessions on both sides to achieve a lasting peace.

**Chacour, Elias, and David Hazard.**

*Blood Brothers: The Dramatic Story of a Palestinian Christian Working for Peace in Israel.*

Updated ed.

Baker Books, 2022, 240 p.

As a child, Elias Chacour lived in a small Palestinian village in Galilee. In 1948 almost a million Palestinians were forced into refugee camps as a result of the Arab-Israeli war that impacted their lives radically. Chacour blends his riveting life story with historical research. He then offers hope and insight to help Jews and Palestinians live at peace in a world of tension and strife.

**Chapman, Colin Gilbert.**

*Whose Promised Land? The Continuing Crisis over Israel and Palestine.*

5th ed.

Lion Books, 2015, 645 p.

Having lived and worked in the Middle East at various times since 1968, Colin Chapman explains the roots of the crisis and outlines the arguments of the main parties involved. With two peoples claiming the same piece of land, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains a huge political and humanitarian problem. Can it ever be resolved? The author addresses this basic question in the revised fifth edition of this highly acclaimed book.

**Chatty, Dawn, and Gillian Lewando Hundt, eds.**

*Children of Palestine: Experiencing Forced Migration in the Middle East.*

Berghahn Books, 2005, 256 p.

For more than half a century, Palestinian children and their caregivers have lived a temporary existence in the dramatic and politically volatile landscape that is the Middle East. This book gives a voice to individual children, in the context of their household and their community.

### **Chomsky, Noam.**

*The Fateful Triangle: The United States, Israel, and the Palestinians.* With a foreword by Edward Said.

Updated ed.

Haymarket Books, 2015, 776 p.

In the updated edition of this classic book, with a new introduction by Chomsky, readers seeking to understand the Middle East and US foreign policy today will find an invaluable tool.

### **Chomsky, Noam, and Ilan Pappé.**

*Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on the U.S.-Israeli War on the Palestinians.*

Haymarket Books, 2013, 288 p.

Two widely regarded critics of Israeli and US foreign policy in the Middle East survey the fallout from Israel's conduct in Gaza and place it in historical context. They thrust the humanitarian crisis in Gaza into the center of the debate about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

### **Chomsky, Noam, and Ilan Pappé.**

*On Palestine.* 3rd ed.

Penguin, 2016.

Ilan Pappé and Noam Chomsky, the two leading voices in the struggle to liberate Palestine, discuss the road ahead for Palestinians and how the international community can pressure Israel to end its human rights abuses against the Palestinian people. This is a sequel to their acclaimed book *Gaza in Crisis*.

### **Cohn-Sherbok, Dan, and Dawoud El-Alami.**

*The Palestine-Israeli Conflict.*

5th ed.

Oneworld Publications, 2022, 352 p.

Dan Cohn-Sherbok presents the Israeli perspective, and Dawoud El-Alami presents the Palestinian perspective, in exploring the history, motivations, and people behind the Palestine-Israel conflict and assessing the prospects for peace. This is the essential guide that allows both sides to be heard.

### **Cook, Jonathan.**

*Disappearing Palestine: Israel's Experiments in Human Despair.*

Zed Books, 2008, 224 p.

Over many decades Israel has developed and refined policies to disperse, imprison, and impoverish the Palestinian people in a relentless effort to destroy them as a nation. Jonathan Cook analyzes how Israel has transformed the West Bank and Gaza into laboratories for testing the infrastructure of confinement by pioneering the technologies needed for urban warfare, crowd control, and collective punishment.

**Dabbagh, Nadia Taysir.**

*Suicide in Palestine: Narratives of Despair.*

Olive Branch Press, 2005, 265 p.

The book probes the effects of life under Israeli occupation on the mental health of young Palestinians. The distinction between martyrdom and suicide is explored in detail. The stories the author collected mirror the disillusionment of many young Palestinians who had hoped that their lives would improve each time a new round of fighting subsided.

**David, Anthony.**

*An Improbable Friendship: The Remarkable lives of Israeli Ruth Dayan and Palestinian Raymonda Tawil and Their Forty Year Peace Mission.*

Arcade, 2019, 312 p.

The story of the secret friendship between Ruth Dayan, Moshe Dayan's wife for thirty-seven years, and Palestinian journalist Raymonda Tawil, Yasser Arafat's mother-in-law, that lasted for forty years. Based on personal interviews, diaries, and journals drawn from both women, Anthony David delivers a fascinating behind-the-scenes narrative of reconciliation and hope in a country beset by war and endless conflict.

**Davis, Rochelle.**

*Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced.*

Stanford University Press, 2010, 360 p.

Throughout modern-day Israel, over four hundred Palestinian villages have been depopulated following the 1948 war. With houses mostly destroyed, mosques and churches put to other use, and cemeteries plowed under, Palestinian communities were left geographically dispossessed. Palestinians have since carried their village names, memories, and possessions with them in the diaspora, transforming their lost past into local histories in the form of "village memorial books" numbering more than one hundred in print.

**Di Cintio, Marcello.**

*Pay No Heed to the Rockets: Life in Contemporary Palestine.*

Counterpoint, 2019, 256 p.

Marcello Di Cintio sought out writers, poets, and people skilled at telling stories, to learn about Palestine through their viewpoints. The result is a book that captures not only the sorrows and injustices of Palestinian life but something of its beauty and joys. Winner of the 2019 City of Calgary W. O. Mitchell Book Prize.

**Ehrenreich, Ben.**

*The Way to Spring: Life and Death in Palestine.*

Penguin Press, 2016, 464 p.

Journalist Ben Ehrenreich chronicles the fears, anger, frustrations and the humiliations and

indignities that Palestinians suffer daily under Israeli occupation. He also writes about their joyful moments, love for family, and dreams about a just and peaceful future.

### **Elgindy, Khaled.**

*Blind Spot: America and the Palestinians, from Balfour to Trump.*

Brookings Institution Press, 2019, 345 p.

While analyzing the history of US-Palestinian relations, Elgindy makes clear that the United States has failed miserably to settle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict because of the pressures of American domestic politics and the special US relationship with Israel. It is no secret that Washington has a blind spot when it comes to Israel, and, as such, it is unwilling to come to grips with the entrenched military occupation of the West Bank, the ever-expanding Jewish settlements, and the siege of Gaza that have stood in the way of every peace initiative since the Camp David Accords.

### **Erekat, Noura.**

*Justice for Some: Law and the Question of Palestine.*

Stanford University Press, 2020, 352 p.

Law is politics, the author argues, and its meaning and application depend on the political intervention of states and people alike. Erekat shows how the strategic deployment of international law, when it is mobilized in the support of a political movement, can serve the cause of freedom for the people of Palestine.

### **Falk, Richard.**

*Unlocking the Middle East: The Writings of Richard Falk.*

Olive Branch, 2003, 305 p.

In this collection of fourteen essays, Richard Falk applies his understanding of international law to recent historical and current issues in Middle Eastern politics. Much of his analysis insists that there must be a consistent right to self-determination, as opposed to a cynical academic interpretation practiced by some.

### **Farmer, Esther, Rosalind Petchesky, and Sarah Sill, eds.**

*A Land with a People: Palestinians and Jews Confront Zionism.* Foreword by Noura Erakat.

Monthly Review, 2021, 184 p.

This book of stories, poems, and photographs allows Palestinian and Jewish voices to be heard collectively. It began as a storytelling project of Jewish Voice for Peace–New York City and was subsequently transformed into a theater project performed throughout the New York City area.

### **Farred, Shenaaz.**

*Gaza Forgotten: A Woman's Journey to an Open-Air Prison.*

Porcupine Press, 2017, 278 p.

In 2011, the Africa 1 Aid Convoy carrying medical supplies, generators, and water desalination units set off from Johannesburg, South Africa, to Gaza. The city was under heavy Israeli bombardment at the time, but the convoy managed to enter through the Egyptian border. Farred was one of the people on that convoy, and what happened during the seven days of their visit is the substance of this book.

### **Finkelstein, Norman G.**

*Gaza: An Inquest into Its Martyrdom.*

University of California Press, 2021, 438 p.

Since 2004 Israel has launched multiple devastating operations against Gaza's largely defenseless population. Basing his book on scores of human rights reports, Norman Finkelstein shows that although Israel has justified its assaults in the name of self-defense, these actions constitute flagrant violations of international law. Finkelstein also criticizes the so-called guardians of human rights, from Amnesty International, to Human Rights Watch, and the UN Human Rights Council for ultimately failing Gaza and succumbing to the Israeli juggernaut.

### **Finkelstein, Norman G.**

*The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the Exploitation of Jewish Suffering.* 2nd ed.

Verso, 2015, 305 p.

This book is a scathing indictment of those who exploit the tragedy of the Holocaust to shield Israel from any criticism of its mistreatment of Palestinians living under occupation. Finkelstein contends that the main danger posed to the memory of Nazism's victims comes from some of the people who profess most passionately to defend it. He concludes that the Holocaust industry has become an outright extortion racket.

### **Finkelstein, Norman G.**

*Image and Reality of the Israel-Palestine Conflict.*

Verso Books, 2003, 256p.

In this acclaimed critical examination of Zionism in Israel and Palestine, Norman Finkelstein surveys historical documents and looks at the demographic origins of the Palestinians. He concludes that the casting of Israel as the innocent victim of Arab aggression is seldom supported by documentary records.

### **Fleischmann, Ellen.**

*The Nation and its "New" Women: The Palestinian Women's Movement, 1920–1948.*

University of California Press, 2003, 352 p.

Though they are often absent from historical records, Palestinian women were extensively involved in the unfolding national struggle in their country during the British Mandate period. Led primarily by urban, educated women from the middle and upper classes of Palestinian

society, these women met with government officials, demonstrated, smuggled arms, and participated in regional and international conferences.

**Fleischmann, Leonie.**

*The Israeli Peace Movement: Anti-Occupation Activism and Human Rights since the Al-Aqsa Intifada.*

I. B. Tauris, 2019, 252 p.

The Israeli peace movement has been in decline since 2000. However, despite the stagnation around the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, this book argues that other important groups have emerged that present new ways to challenge the status quo. This book sheds light on contemporary Israeli peace activism.

**Gorkin, Michael, and Rafiqa Othman.**

*Three Mothers, Three Daughters: Palestinian Women's Stories.*

University of Cairo Press, 1996, 261 p.

This collection of oral histories from six Palestinian women presents the stories of three mothers and their three daughters.

**Hass, Amira.**

*Drinking the Sea at Gaza: Days and Nights in a Land under Siege.*

Picador, 2000, 400 p.

In 1993, Amira Hass, a young Israeli reporter, drove to Gaza to cover a story about the city and its people. *Drinking the Sea at Gaza* is about what she has witnessed in the city's gutted streets and its destitute refugee camps. She offers a remarkable portrait of a people who are consumed with grief, anger, and frustration and, at the same time, are eloquent, resilient, and courageous.

**Hass, Amira.**

*Reporting From Ramallah: An Israeli journalist in an Occupied Land.*

Semiotext, 2003, 209 p.

Amira Hass is the only Jewish Israeli correspondent on Palestinian affairs to live among the people about whom she reports. The child of Holocaust survivors, Hass is relentless in her quest for both truth and justice. Recipient of the UNESCO Guillermo Camo World Press Freedom Prize in 2003.

**Hackl, Andreas.**

*The Invisible Palestinians: The Hidden Struggle for Inclusion in Jewish Tel Aviv.*

Indiana University Press, 2022, 230 p.

Within the heart of Tel Aviv there is a hidden reality, - Palestinians who work, study, and live as an unseen minority without access to equal urban citizenship. Hackl explores the marginalized urban presence of both Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinian laborers from the West Bank

in this quintessential Jewish Israeli city. He writes about members of a highly diverse Palestinian community who carefully navigate their place in a city that refuses to recognize them.

### **Hadawi, Sami.**

*Bitter Harvest: A Modern History of Palestine.*

Olive Branch Press, 1991, 384 p.

Sami Hadawi writes about the people of Palestine through the years of British colonization and examines the Jewish community and Zionism along with the legacy of Jewish terrorism against both the British and Palestinians. Later sections look at the role of the state of Israel, its treatment of the Palestinians, and the emergence of the Palestine Liberation Movement.

### **Halaby, Mona Hajjar.**

*In My Mother's Footsteps: A Palestinian Refugee Returns Home.*

Thread, 2021, 290 p.

During the Nakba of 1948, Mona Halaby was forced to flee from her home in Jerusalem, and she was never allowed to return. She ended up immigrating to California where she grew up listening to her mother's vivid memories of her beloved homeland. Mona later embarked on a pilgrimage with her mother to find her home in occupied Jerusalem. A moving journey of a daughter discovering her Palestinian roots and recovering her mother's beloved past.

### **Halper, Jeff.**

*Decolonizing Israel, Liberating Palestine: Zionism, Settler Colonialism, and the Case for One Democratic State.*

Pluto Press, 2021, 256 p.

The author makes the argument that the only conceivable future for justice and peace requires a process of decolonization and equal rights for all. Jeff Halper argues that the only way out of a colonial situation is the dismantling of the Zionist structures of domination and control and their replacement by a single democratic state, in which Palestinians and Israelis forge a new civil society and a shared political community.

### **Hammad, Suheir.**

*Drops of This Story.*

Writers and Readers, 1996, 93 p.

The author, a Palestinian-American woman, examines her Palestinian heritage and the challenges of finding her own identity in the midst of two cultures.

### **Hart, Alan.**

*Arafat: A political Biography.*

Indiana University press, 1989, 560 p.

An informed and detailed biography Arafat and the Palestinian national struggle for independence. Hart writes about Arafat and his inner circle, the history of the PLO from the 1960s, and the course of the inter-Arab relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

### **Hashim, Norma, ed.**

*Dreaming of Freedom: Palestinian Child Prisoners Speak.* Translated by Yousef Aljamal. Foreword by Richard Falk.

N. Hashim, 2019, 174 p.

This book presents poignant firsthand accounts of Palestinian children held in Israeli detention facilities in the occupied West Bank.

### **Hayoun, Massoud.**

*When We Were Arabs: A Jewish Family's Forgotten History.*

The New Press, 2019, 304 p.

A vivid account of the author's grandparents' lives in Egypt, Tunisia, Palestine, and Los Angeles shatters the contemporary understanding of what makes an Arab and what makes a Jew. In reclaiming his family's Arab Jewish identity, Hayoun recalls a time before ethnic identity was mangled for political ends.

### **Hill, Marc Lamont.**

*Except for Palestine: The Limits of Progressive Politics.*

The New Press, 2021, 240 p.

Progressive politics in the United States typically includes firm commitment to human rights, including those of war victims, refugees, and colonized people. Why then do American progressives seem to ignore the claims of the Palestinians? Why do the self-proclaimed progressives contradict their beliefs by justifying or ignoring behavior done by Israel in the Middle East? A bold call for the American Left to uproot the double standards that exist only with the conflict in the Middle East.

### **Hiro, Dilip.**

*Sharing the Promised Land: Interwoven Tale of Israelis and Palestinians.*

Interlink Pub Group Inc, 1999, 372 p.

Dilip Hiro provides readers with a comprehensive chronicle of Israeli and Palestinian lives, shaped by negotiations and confrontation, right up to the present. The author is Indian, not Palestinian, and tries to take an objective, balanced view of the ongoing conflict.

### **Hirst, David.**

*The Gun and the Olive Branch: The Roots of Violence in the Middle East.*

3rd ed.

Bold Type Books, 2003, 400 p.

The British journalist David Hirst wrote *The Gun and the Olive Branch* in 1977. It has since become a classic and a myth-breaking general history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He traces the origins of the conflict back to the 1880s to show how Arab violence is a response to the challenge of repeated aggression. This classic work was returned to print in 2003 in an updated edition that includes a lengthy new introduction by the author.

### **Holliday, Laurel.**

*Children of Israel, Children of Palestine*

Atria Books, 2014, 394 p.

Israeli Jewish children and Palestinian children share their feelings and reflections on growing up amid turmoil and uncertainty. From kibbutzim in Israel to the Palestinian refugee camps in the occupied West Bank and Gaza they recount stories of their violent youth and share their fears and dreams of a peaceful future

### **Hoffman, Adina.**

*My Happiness Bears No Relation to Happiness: A Poet's Life in the Palestinian Century.*

Yale University Press, 2009, 464 p.

Taha Muhammad Ali was born in 1931 in the Galilee and was forced to flee after the Nakba. He has since run a souvenir shop in Nazareth, and at the same time he has evolved into a remarkable poet. The book offers a sweeping depiction of the charged and fateful era in which he grew up. Hoffman places Muhammad Ali's life in the context of his peers, so the reader gets a view of an exceptional man and the culture from which he emerged.

### **Ismail, Noha Shaath.**

*East of the Sun: A Memoir.*

AuthorHouse, 2011, 212 p.

Ismail describes her formative years growing up in Alexandria, Egypt, after her Palestinian family was displaced due to the Nakba. Her personal story is set against a backdrop of political and social upheaval. She writes about the loss of her homeland, Nasser's Egypt, and her immigration to the United States with insightful reminiscences about her family and her rapidly changing world.

### **Jabra, Jabra Ibrahim.**

*The First Well: A Bethlehem Boyhood.*

University of Arkansas Press, 1995, 192 p.

*The First Well* is an engaging memoir of Iraqi-Palestinian writer and artist Jabra Ibrahim Jabra's boyhood in Bethlehem and later in Jerusalem where he moved as a teenager with his parents. Here is a chronicle of the experiences and events he drew on as he became one of the leading authors of the Arab world. It is the story of his intellectual and spiritual growth, nurtured and encouraged by his family, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and his teachers.

## **Jabra, Jabra Ibrahim.**

*Princesses' Street: Baghdad Memories.*

University of Arkansas Press, 2005, 180 p.

This book continues the autobiography of Jabra Ibrahim Jabra that began with *The First Well*. Jabra was one of the Middle East's leading novelists and critics and is credited with modernizing the Arabic novel. This volume helps us understand not only Jabra and his work but also post-World War II Baghdad when Iraq was enjoying a revived period of creativity in literature and art.

## **Jad, Islah.**

*Palestinian Women's Activism: Nationalism, Secularism, Islamism.*

Syracuse University Press, 2018. 288 p.

Jad traces the transformation of the Palestinian women's movement from the 1930s to the post Oslo period to examine the complex relationship between women and nationalism in Palestine. Jad also explores, Islamist women's activism and the impact of emerging feminist NGOs in secularizing the women's movement in Palestinian society.

## **Kanj, Jamal K.**

*Children of Catastrophe: Journey from a Palestinian Refugee Camp to America.*

Garnet Publishing, 2010, 208 p.

Jamal Kanji tells the remarkable story of a Palestinian refugee, following his journey from childhood in a refugee camp in Lebanon, and becoming a member of the PLO, to eventual emigration and a new life as an engineer in the United States. The book also documents the story of the Nahr El Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon. The spirit of the remarkable people of the camp shines through.

## **Karmi, Ghada.**

*In Search of Fatima: A Palestinian Story.*

Verso Books, 2009, 480 p.

Ghada Karmi's acclaimed memoir describes her childhood in Palestine, flight to Britain with her family after the Nakba, and coming of age in Golders Green, a Jewish suburb north of London. Her story speaks eloquently of the acute psychological displacement experienced by Palestinians who have lived suspended between their old and new countries, fitting into neither.

## **Karmi, Ghada.**

*Married to Another Man: Israel's Dilemma in Palestine.*

Pluto Press, 2007, 320 p.

Two rabbis, visiting Palestine in 1897, observed that the land was like a bride, "beautiful but married to another man," by which they meant: if a place was to be found for Israel in Palestine, where would the people go? This is a dilemma that Israel has never been able to resolve. Doctor,

author, and academic Ghada Karmi explains in fascinating detail the difficulties Israel's existence created for the Arab World and why the search for a solution has been so elusive.

### **Karmi, Ghada.**

*One State: The Only Democratic Future For Palestine-Israel.*

Pluto Press, 2023, 208 p.

Ghada Karmi is one of the most vocal proponents of the single democratic state in Palestine-Israel. Uniting the land, from the river Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea, and allowing the Palestinian right of return is the only way to end the exclusive and antidemocratic character of the Israeli state.

### **Karmi, Ghada.**

*Return: A Palestinian Memoir.*

Verso, 2015, 336 p.

Having grown up in Britain following her family's exile from Palestine, Karmi leaves her adoptive home in a quest to return to her homeland. Visiting places she had not seen since childhood, she reveals a militarized and barely recognizable homeland. Her encounters with politicians, fellow Palestinians, and Israeli soldiers cause her to question what role exiles like herself have in the future of the country.

### **Kashua, Sayed.**

*Native: Dispatches from an Israeli -Palestinian Life.*

Grove Press, c, 2017, 304 p.

Sayed Kashua is an Israeli-Palestinian who lives in Jerusalem. He started writing in Hebrew with the hope of creating one story that both Palestinians and Israelis could relate to. *Native* is a selection of his satirical columns that appear weekly in the *Haaretz* newspaper. They bring forth a series of brilliant, wry, and fearless reflections on social and cultural dynamics as experienced by someone who straddles two societies.

### **Kassem, Fatma.**

*Palestinian Women: Narrative Histories and Gendered Memory.*

Zed Books, 2011, 272 p.

The book documents the experiences of ordinary Palestinian women who witnessed the events of 1948 and became involuntary citizens of the state of Israel. Told in their own words, the women's narratives reveal the complex intersections of gender, nationalism, and citizenship in a situation of ongoing violent political conflict.

### **Khalidi, Anbara Salam.**

*Memoirs of an Early Arab Feminist: The Life and Activism of Anbara Salam Khalidi.* Translated by Tarif Khalidi.

Pluto Press, 2013, 183 p.

At a time when Palestinian women are playing an important role in their struggle for national independence, this book brings to life an earlier period of social turmoil highlighting one remarkable woman's activism in the early nineteenth century. She was born in 1897 and as a young woman she wrote a series of newspaper articles calling on women to fight for their rights within the Ottoman Empire. Later she translated Homer and Virgil into Arabic and fled from Jerusalem to Beirut following the Nakba.

### **Khalidi, Rasheed.**

*Brokers of Deceit: How the U.S. Has Undermined Peace in the Middle East.*

Beacon Press, 2014, 208 p.

For more than seven decades the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people has gone on with no end in sight, and for much of that time the United States has been involved as a mediator in this conflict. Rasheed Khalidi zeroes in on the US role in this failed peace process. Khalidi reveals how the United States and Israel have actively colluded to prevent a Palestinian state and resolve the situation in Israel's favor.

### **Khalidi, Rasheed.**

*The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017.*

Macmillan, 2021, 336 p.

This landmark history of one hundred years of war waged against the Palestinians is told through pivotal events and the author's family history. Drawing on a wealth of untapped archival materials and reports of generations of family members, the author describes a tragic clash between two peoples with claims to the same territory. This is a sweeping account of the past century that reassesses the roots of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A must read for anyone interested in learning the root causes of this intractable conflict.

### **Khalidi, Rasheed.**

*The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood.*

Beacon Press, 2007, 288 p.

Khalidi explores the roots of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians going back to the Ottomans, the British Mandate, and the establishment of the Jewish state. He then covers the Palestinian struggle for liberation that ensued, putting in context the roles of the PLO, the Palestinian Authority, and Hamas. This book provides a lucid and much-needed perspective that has been notably lacking in the public discourse.

### **Khalidi, Rasheed.**

*Palestinian Identity: The Construction of Modern National Consciousness.*  
Columbia University Press, 2009, 310 p.

Khalidi writes about the struggle for Palestinian nationhood and recognition. Noting the strength of Palestinian identity and social solidarity, he casts an eye to the future and makes a strong case for the inevitable establishment of a Palestinian state.

### **Khalidi, Walid, ed.**

*All That Remains: The Palestinian Villages Occupied and Depopulated by Israel in 1948.*

Institute for Palestine Studies, 2006, 636 p.

This authoritative reference work describes in detail the more than four hundred Palestinian villages that were destroyed or depopulated by Israel in 1948. Little of these once thriving communities remains. But to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians living in their diaspora, these villages were home, and they continue to have a powerful hold on them.

### **Khalidi, Walid.**

*Before Their Diaspora: A Photographic History of the Palestinians 1876–1948.*

Institute for Palestine Studies, 1984, 371 p.

The book presents a visual journey into life in Palestine before the Nakba of 1948. Every aspect of Palestinian history comes to life in the nearly five hundred photographs carefully selected from private and public collections throughout the world. Descriptive and analytical text is included, along with detailed chronologies.

### **Khalidi, Walid.**

*From Haven to Conquest.*

Institute for Palestine Studies, 1987, 914 p.

Now a classic in its field, *From Haven to Conquest* is a unique compendium of difficult-to-find or out-of-print material on Zionism and the history of Palestine to 1948. Eight documents and firsthand accounts are supplemented by an introduction by Professor Khalidi, twenty-two maps, and thirty pages of appendices providing detailed demographic and military statistics.

### **Khouri, Raja.**

*The Wall Between: What Jews and Palestinians Don't Want to Know about Each Other.*

Olive Branch Press, 2023, 161 p.

The *Wall Between* is a book about the wall that exist between the Jewish and Palestinian peoples. It examines the roots of their differences that can be traced to the Holocaust and the Nakba and explores ways they can talk and listen to each other.

**King, Mary Elizabeth.**

*A Quiet Revolution: The First Palestinian Intifada and Nonviolent Resistance.* Introduction by Jimmy Carter.

Bold Type Books, 2007, 488 p.

Renowned civil rights activist Mary King claims that the First Intifada started out as a peaceful protest but escalated to a violent confrontation after the killing of four Palestinian laborers in Gaza. In this book she details the complicity of the media in the escalation. King draws on the history of nonviolent movements and argues that only through nonviolent strategies can a negotiated peace be achieved with Israel.

**Kovel, Joel.**

*Overcoming Zionism: Creating a Single Democratic State in Israel/Palestine.*

Pluto Press, 2007, 320 p.

In this call to transform Israel into a secular democracy, leading Jewish writer Kovel argues that Zionism creates a terrible contradiction that eats away at the soul and conscience of Jewish people. The problem is that you can't have a democratic state just for one people while excluding the others. The notion of democracy derives from universal ideals based on universal human rights. It cannot exist where there is systematic inequality.

**Kuttab, Daoud.**

*Sesame Street Palestine: The Ups and Downs of Producing a Children's Program.*

BearManor Media, 2018, 120 p.

After a surprise call from Children's Television Workshop, Daoud Kuttab took the chance to create a Palestinian co-production of *Sesame Street*. Animating hand puppets proved to be quite a challenging undertaking while he worked against a backdrop of turbulence caused by the Israeli occupation. He endured navigating through checkpoints, finding actors and puppeteers in a country starved for training, and getting arrested days after the first episode aired.

**La Guardia, Anton.**

*War without End: Israelis, Palestinians, and the Struggle for a Promised Land.*

St Martin's Griffin, 2003, 448 p.

British journalist and Middle East correspondent Anton La Guardia offers an informed and objective history of the region, tracing the Zionist movement back to its nineteenth-century roots and describing the birth of Palestinians' national identity after the fall of the Ottoman Empire. It is now a struggle between Israelis and Palestinians for the same cherished but blood-soaked real estate, and what many fear will be a war without end.

**Laqueur, Walter, and Dan Schueftan, eds.**

*The Israel-Arab Reader: A Documentary History of the Middle East Conflict.* 8th ed.

Penguin Books, 2016, 608 p.

In print for nearly half a century and now in its eighth edition, this authoritative guide to over a century of conflict in the Middle East covers the origins of Zionism and Arab nationalism, the struggles surrounding the 1948 war, the Six-Day War, and other wars and hostilities over the decades, and the long diplomatic process and peace initiatives.

**LeBor, Adam.**

*City of Oranges: An Intimate History of Arabs and Jews in Jaffa.*

W. W. Norton, 2007, 482 p.

The old port of Jaffa, now part of Tel Aviv, was once known as the “Bride of Palestine,” where Muslims, Christians, and Jews lived, worked, and celebrated together. Through intimate personal interviews with three Arab families and three Jewish families who lived in Jaffa for generations, Adam LaBor gives readers an intimate look at the human lives behind the headlines.

**Lowenstein, Antony, ed.**

*After Zionism: One Site for Israel and Palestine.*

Saqi Books, 2013, 292 p.

Time has run out for a two-state solution because of the expansion of settlements and the unending colonization of Palestinian land. A growing number of Palestinians and Israelis, Jews and Arabs, are working together to forge a different, unified future. This book offers essays by Omar Barghouti, Diana Buttu, Jonathan Cook, Saree Makdisi, John Mearsheimer, Ilan Pappé, Ghada Karmi, Sara Roy, and others.

**Lynd, Staughton, Alice Lynd, and Sam Bahour, eds.**

*Homeland: Oral Histories of Palestine and Palestinians.*

Interlink Publishing Group, 1994, 288 p.

The editors traveled throughout Israel and the occupied territories to find the multigenerational Palestinian families living in towns, villages, and refugee camps whose voices resonate throughout this book about their homeland. The book poignantly links the people to the land, an attachment that has created and sustained Palestinian national identity.

**Makdisi, Saree.**

*Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation.*

W. W. Norton, 2008, 384 p.

Saree Makdisi reveals how the “peace process” institutionalized Palestinians’ loss of control over their inner and outer lives. We learn how the status quo has made life impossible for ordinary

Palestinians and how their hopes for freedom and statehood culminated in the creation of abject “territories” comparable to open-air prisons.

**Mansour, Camille, and Leila Fawaz, eds.**

*Transformed Landscapes: Essays on Palestine and the Middle East in Honor of Walid Khalidi.*

American University in Cairo Press, 2009, 380 p.

This volume is dedicated to Walid Khalidi, one of the most influential Palestinian intellectuals of the second half of the twentieth century, whose impact has been felt in scholarship, institution building, and politics. The essays included are written by an impressive group of internationally recognized scholars, friends, former students, and colleagues of Khalidi.

**Masalha, Nur, ed.**

*Catastrophe Remembered: Palestine, Israel, and the Internal Refugees: Essays in Memory of Edward Said.*

Zed Books, 2005, 320 p.

This book focuses on Palestinians who are internal refugees in Israel and internally displaced Palestinians across the Green Line. Contributors include distinguished authors such as William Dalrymple, Naseer Aruri, Ilan Pappé, Ismail Abu Sa'ad, and Nur Masalha.

**Masalha, Nur.**

*Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History.*

I. B. Tauris, 2023, 464 p.

Starting with the earliest references to Palestine in Egyptian and Assyrian texts, Masalha explores how Palestine and its Palestinian identity have evolved over thousands of years, from the Bronze Age to the present. Drawing on many sources, including the latest archaeological evidence, he shows how Palestine's multicultural past has been distorted and mythologized by biblical lore and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**Masalha, Nur.**

*The Palestine Nakba: Decolonizing History, Narrating the Subaltern, Reclaiming Memory.*

Zed Books, 2012, 320 p.

This book is essential for understanding the place of the Palestinian Nakba at the heart of the Israel-Palestinian conflict and the vital role of memory in narratives of truth and reconciliation.

**Matar, Dina.**

*What It Means to Be a Palestinian: Stories of Palestinian Peoplehood.*

I. B. Tauris, 2010, 232 p.

The book is based on a collection of personal narratives and interviews with Palestinians young and old, male and female, rich and poor, religious and secular, whose lives were changed and

shaped by history. It begins with the 1936 revolt against British rule in Palestine and ends in 1993 with the Oslo peace agreements.

**Mattar, Philip.**

*Encyclopedia of the Palestinians.*

Rev. ed.

Facts on File, 2005, 684 p.

Mattar's encyclopedia will remain a definitive work on Palestine for years, and is highly recommended for public and academic libraries. A comprehensive resource, it includes updates of many of the original entries, as well as maps and approximately fifty black-and-white photographs.

**Mearsheimer, John, and Stephen Walt.**

*The Israeli Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy.*

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008, 496 p.

This book provoked both howls of outrage and cheers of gratitude for challenging the impact of the Israeli lobby on US foreign policy. John Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago and Stephen Walt of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government describe the remarkable level of military, intelligence, and diplomatic support the United States provides to Israel and argues that this support cannot be fully explained on either strategic or moral grounds.

**Molavi, Shourideh.**

*Stateless Citizenship: The Palestinian-Arab Citizens of Israel.*

Haymarket Books, 2014, 255 p.

Palestinians living in Israel are placed in a paradoxical situation where, as Arab citizens of a Jewish state, they are both inside and outside, host and guest, citizen and stateless. Shourideh Molavi analyzes what it means that, through their status as Israeli citizens, Palestinians are deemed stateless.

**Nammar, Jacob.**

*Born in Jerusalem, Born Palestinian: A Memoir.*

Forward by Salim Tamari.

Olive Branch Press, 2012, 224 p.

When Jacob was a young boy, Jerusalem was the center of his life, but his world was turned upside down after his family was forced out of their home due to the Nakba. In his memoir, Jacob writes about his childhood days before 1948, the struggles of the Palestinian community under the Israeli rule that followed, to his ultimate decision to leave for America at age twenty three.

### **Najjar, Orayb Aref.**

*Portraits of Palestinian Women.* Translated by Rosemary Sayyegh.  
University of Utah Press, 1992, 312 p.

Fourteen women of diverse backgrounds offer an intimate look at life in the occupied territories and Arab society. The book is a collection of clear voices that reveal what it is like to be Palestinian and female.

### **Nusseibeh, Sari, and Anthony David.**

*Once upon a Country: A Palestinian Life.*  
Picador, 2008, 584 p.

Sari Nusseibeh tells his dramatic story of growing up in Jerusalem, teaching with Israelis at the Hebrew University, and being appointed by Yasser Arafat to administer the city of Jerusalem. Throughout his dramatic journey, he has experienced the consequences of war, partition, and terrorism, but he never wavered from his firmly held principles of freedom and equality for all.

### **Pappé, Ilan.**

*The Biggest Prison on Earth: A History of the Occupied Territories.*  
OneWorld Publications, 2019, 304 p.

A groundbreaking history of the occupied territories from one of Israel's most influential historians. Pappé uses recently declassified documents to analyze the motivation and strategies of the Israeli generals and politicians that were put in place to control the population of over one million Palestinians living under occupation in one of the biggest prisons on earth.

### **Pappé, Ilan.**

*The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine.*  
OneWorld Publications, 2007, 336 p.

Pappé revisits the formation of the state of Israel between 1947 and 1949, when four hundred Palestinian villages were deliberately destroyed, civilians were massacred, and close to one million inhabitants were expelled at gunpoint. The author offers archival evidence to demonstrate that from Israel's inception its ideology was the forcible removal of the indigenous population.

### **Pappé, Ilan.**

*The Forgotten Palestinian: A History of the Palestinians in Israel.*  
Yale University Press, 2013, 344 p.

Drawing on significant archival material and interviews, Pappé analyzes the Israeli state's policy toward its Palestinian citizens, finding discrimination in matters of housing, education, and civil rights. Rigorously researched, the book brings a much-needed perspective to the Israeli-Palestinian debate.

**Pappé, Ilan.**

*A History of Modern Palestine.*

3rd ed.

Cambridge University Press, 2022, 368 p.

Tracing the complex history of Palestine from the Ottomans through the British Mandate, the establishment of Israel in 1948, and the subsequent wars and conflicts of the region. Pappé focuses on personal accounts by the Jews and Arabs of Palestine who lived through these times. He tells the success story of how Israel was created, but at the same time he recognizes the oppression, exile, occupation, and suffering that it has caused the Palestinian population.

**Prior, Michael, ed.**

*Speaking the Truth: Zionism, Israel, and Occupation.*

Olive Branch Press, 2004, 256 p.

Twelve internationally respected scholars and experts examine the ethical and strategic issues of the Palestine-Israeli conflict and offer the reader a rare window into the realities of Israel's military occupation.

**Quigley, John.**

*The Case for Palestine: An International Law Perspective.*

2nd ed.

Duke University Press, 2005, 360 p.

Author John Quigley argues that throughout the last century established tenets of international law, especially the right to self-determination, have been consistently overlooked in favor of Israel. He contends that the Palestinians have a stronger legal claim to Jerusalem than do the Israelis, that Palestinian refugees have a right to be repatriated, and that Israel should withdraw from the territory it occupied in 1967.

**Qumsiyeh, Mazin B.**

*Sharing the Land of Canaan: Human Rights and the Israeli-Palestinian Struggle.*

Pluto Press, 2004, 236 p.

Mazin Qumsiyeh is a human rights activist based at Yale University. In this book he offers an overview of the issues at stake and outlines his vision for a lasting peace based on upholding the principles of human rights for all. He analyzes the obstacles that stand in the way of his vision, and concludes that apartheid in the form of a two-state solution is no longer a feasible way to achieve enduring peace.

### **Qumsiyeh, Sahar.**

*Peace for a Palestinian: One Woman's Story of Faith amidst War in the Holy Land.*

Deseret Books, 2018, 176 p.

Sahar Qumsiyeh was raised a Christian in Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem. Growing up in a country torn apart by political upheaval, she struggled with feelings of anger as she watched her people being persecuted and humiliated. As a young adult, Sahar received a scholarship to an American university. While there she was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. But staying true to her new faith was put to the test when she returned home to Palestine.

### **Risheq, Tareq.**

*"But You Don't Look Palestinian": On Belonging, Displacement, and the Tapestry of Resilience.*

Independently Published, 2024, 129 p.

"It's a paradox, an unspoken expectation that my love skin and dry hair should be draped in a specific set of visible markers - a flag, a dialect, a tangible trace of the homeland denied. Yet, my story, like that of millions of Palestinians scattered across the globe, defies such tidy categorization." Tareq Risheq.

### **Roy, Sara.**

*Failing Peace: Gaza and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict.*

Pluto Press, 2006, 408 p.

Sara Roy's book provides an indispensable context for understanding why the situation in the Middle East remains so intractable. Drawing on more than two thousand interviews and extensive firsthand experience, Roy chronicles the impact of Israeli occupation in Palestine over nearly a generation. This is a powerful account of the reality of life in the West Bank and Gaza.

### **Roy, Sara.**

*Unsilencing Gaza: Reflections on Resistance.*

Pluto Press, 2021, 304 p.

Since 2005 Israel has isolated Gaza from its connection to the West Bank, deliberately shattered its economy, and periodically subjected it to merciless bombardment. After Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005, it implemented a policy that consisted of a series of punitive approaches meant not only to contain the Hamas regime but also to weaken Gaza society. Roy also discusses the connections between Gaza's history and her own as a child of Holocaust survivors.

### **Sabaaneh, Mohammad.**

*Power Born of Dreams: My Story is Palestine.*

Street Noise Books, 2021, 128 p.

Stories woven from threads of memory inside an Israeli prison. Stories of families, of community, of Gaza, of the West Bank, of Jerusalem, of Palestine. Stories that help us see that the prison is

much larger than a building, it stretches through towns and villages, past military checkpoints and borders. Winner of 2022 Palestine Book Award.

**Sabbagh, Karl.**

*Palestine: A Personal History.*

Grove Press, 2008, 384 p.

Karl Sabbagh tells the history of Palestine and its rich heritage, and then he lays out the case of the major injustice that was done to the Palestinians as a result of the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. As he unfolds the narrative of dispossession, he intersperses stories of his own family. His memoir offers a heartfelt invitation to dialogue.

**Sacco, Joe.**

*Footnotes in Gaza.*

Metropolitan Books, 2010, 432 p.

Sacco's unique graphic journalism delves deep into the massacre of 111 Palestinians shot dead by Israeli soldiers in 1956 in Rafah, a town in the outskirts of Gaza. Was it a dreadful mistake, or was it a footnote to a long history of killing across the border? spanning fifty years, and moving fluidly from one war and the next Sacco sets out to find the truth.

**Sacco, Joe.**

*Palestine*

Fantagraphics, 2001, 288 p.

In 1990 Joe Sacco traveled to the West Bank and Gaza for an extended visit, and out of that trip comes this graphic novel of Palestinians living under military occupation. *Palestine* is Joe Sacco's first major comics work of political and historical nonfiction. Sacco depicts the heart of the Palestinian experience in image after image with a great insight and remarkable humor. A landmark of journalism and the art form of comics, this book received the 1996 American Book Award.

**Safty, Adel.**

*Might Makes Right: How the Zionists Took Over Palestine.*

Garnet Publishing, 2012, 320 p.

A critical account of one of the most remarkable stories in the twentieth century's history of international relations. The book tells how, in the relatively short time of thirty years, Zionist leaders managed, with the help of the West (Britain mostly) to wrestle a country away from its inhabitants, and in the process to profoundly affect the course of international relations and fundamentally transform the history of the Middle East.

**Said, Edward W.**

*After the Last Sky: Palestinian Lives.*

Columbia University Press, 1999, 192 p.

A searing portrait of Palestinian life and identity that is at once an exploration of Edward Said's lost past and a testimony to the lives of those living in exile.

**Said, Edward W.**

*Blaming the Victims: Spurious Scholarship and the Palestinian Question.*  
Verso Books, 2001, 304 p.

Author Said shows how the expulsion of Palestinians has been justified by spurious academic attempts to dismiss their claim to a home within the boundaries of historical Palestine and even to deny their very existence.

**Said, Edward W.**

*Out of Place: A Memoir.*  
Vintage, 2000, 336 p.

From one of the most important intellectuals of our time comes an extraordinary story of exile and celebration of an irrecoverable past. Said writes about the lost Arab world of his early years in Palestine, Lebanon, and Egypt. Underscoring all of this is the confusion of his identity as an American citizen, a Christian, and a Palestinian. His memoir depicts a young man's coming of age and the genesis of a great modern thinker.

**Said, Edward W.**

*Peace and its Discontents: Essays on Palestine in the Middle East Peace Process.*

Vintage, 1996, 188 p.

Edward Said here challenges the official version of the Middle East "peace process." The foremost Palestinian-American intellectual stimulates our thinking about how we have been viewing this whole process.

**Said, Edward W.**

*The Politics of Dispossession: The Struggle of Palestinian Self-Determination, 1969–1994.*

Vintage, 2012, 513 p.

In this collection of essays, Said traces his people's struggles for statehood from the Nakba to the 1994 peace accord with Israel. Said is unsparing in his demolition of Arab icons and American politicians. Impassioned and highly informed, this book has the power to redefine the debate over the Middle East.

**Said, Edward W.**

*Power, Politics, and Culture: Interviews with Edward Said.*  
Vintage, 2002, 512 p.

In this compelling collection of twenty-eight interviews spanning over three decades, Said addresses everything from Palestine to Pavarotti, from his upbringing under colonial rule to his

politically active adulthood, and reflects on Austen, Beckett, Conrad, Naipaul, Mahfouz, and Rushdie. Said's passionate feelings for literature, music, history, and politics are clearly and forcefully conveyed.

**Said, Edward W.**

*The Question of Palestine.*

Updated ed.

Vintage, 1992, 320 p.

This book was the first to make Palestine the subject of serious debate in the United States. Said traces the fatal collision between two peoples in the Middle East and its repercussions in the region, as well as in the conscience of the West. He has updated his landmark book, which remains the most useful and authoritative account available.

**Said, Edward W.**

*Reflections on Exile and Other Essays.*

Harvard University Press, 2002, 656 p.

A collection of essays by the acclaimed Palestinian intellectual and professor at Columbia University. His topics are many and diverse, from reflections on his own exile and fate of the Palestinian people to the movie heroics of Tarzan and the machismo of Ernest Hemingway, but these essays afford a rare insight into Said's brilliant mind.

**Said, Edward W.**

*The Selected Works of Edward Said, 1966–2006.*

Vintage, 2007, 639 p.

Edward Said is one of our era's most provocative and important intellectuals. This collection draws from his entire four-decade career, making it a definitive one-volume source. It includes key sections from all of his books, writing of Zionism and Palestinian self-determination, Jane Austin and Yeats, music and the media. Said's uncompromising intelligence casts urgent light on every subject he undertakes.

**Said, Najla.**

*Looking for Palestine: Growing Up Confused in an Arab-American Family.*

Riverhead Books, 2014, 272 p.

The daughter of the famous Palestinian intellectual Edward Said, Najla grew up in New York City, confused and conflicted about her cultural background. As she grew older, she eventually came to see herself, her passions, and her identity more clearly. Today she is a voice for second-generation Arab Americans nationwide.

**Salem, Salwa, and Laura Mauritano.**

*The Wind in My Hair*. Translated by Yvonne Freccero.

Interlink Books, 2006, 224 p.

A posthumously published recollection about life as a Palestinian exile, dictated by Salwa Salem as she lay dying of cancer. She was just eight years old when her family was uprooted as a result of the Nakba in 1948. They fled first to Jaffa and then to Nablus. Salwa spent the rest of her life in exile: in Damascus, Kuwait, Vienna, and finally in Italy. Salwa's story of displacement is in one sense the story of all Palestinians, but she is, above all, her own person. She refuses to be simply a victim of war, of political injustice, of sickness. She embraces life passionately to the end.

**Sarsour, Linda.**

*We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders: A Memoir of Love and Resistance.*

Foreword by Harry Belafonte.

37 Ink, 2021, 272 p.

Heralded for her award-winning leadership of the Women's March on Washington, Linda Sarsour offers a moving portrayal of what it means to be a Palestinian-American and to find one's voice and use it for the good of others. Throughout she inspires readers to take action as she reaffirms that we are not here to be bystanders.

**Sayigh, Rosemary.**

*The Palestinians: From Peasants to Revolutionaries.*

2nd ed.

Zed Books, 2007, 256 p.

Through extensive interviews with residents of refugee camps, Sayigh provides moving grassroots stories of the Nakba and their flight from their homeland. An update of a book first published in 1984, the 2007 edition has an extensive foreword by Noam Chomsky.

**Sayigh, Rosemary, ed.**

*Yusif Sayigh: Arab Economist, Palestinian Patriot: A Fractured Life Story.*

The American University in Cairo Press, 2015, 376 p.

An acclaimed economist, and lifelong Palestinian nationalist, Yusif Sayigh was witness to the events that led to the loss of his homeland in 1948. His memoir constitutes a vivid social history of the region, as well as a revealing firsthand account of the Palestinian national struggle from its earliest inception.

**Shambrook, Peter.**

*Policy of Deceit: Britain and Palestine, 1914–1939.*

Oneworld Academic, 2023, 416 p.

The previously untold story of Britain's role in the Israel-Palestine conflict, *The Policy of Deceit* examines the correspondence between Sir Henry McMahon, the High Commissioner of Egypt,

and the Sharif of Mecca during the First War. McMahon promised the Sharif an independent Arab state, including Palestine, after the war, in exchange for his alliance with Britain against the Ottomans. But the British government broke its promise to the people of Palestine and changed the course of history.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*Occupation Diaries.*

Profile Books, 2013, 256 p.

It is often the smallest details of daily life that tell us the most, and so it is under occupation in Palestine. “Shehadeh is always honest, elegant and a heart-wrenching pleasure to read,” Egyptian novelist Ahdaf Soueif says of this book.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*Palestinian Walks: Forays into a Vanishing Landscape.*

Scribner, 2008, 224 p.

In recent years, Raja Shehadeh’s hikes in the beloved hills surrounding his home in Ramallah have become less bucolic and downright dangerous. That is because the landscape he traverses is now the site of a tense standoff between his fellow Palestinians and newly arrived settlers from Israel. He laments the endless concrete to build settlements and their walls. He is harassed by Israeli border patrols, and many of the magical trails are now impassable. *Palestinian Walks* won a 2008 Orwell Prize.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*Strangers in the House: Coming of Age in Occupied Palestine.*

Penguin Books, 2003, 272 p.

This book is a memoir of a Palestinian living in the occupied territories. A moving description of daily life of Palestinians living on the land, it is also a family drama of a difficult relationship between an idealistic son and his politically active father.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*We Could Have Been Friends, My Father and I: A Palestinian Memoir.*

Other Press, 2023, 160 p.

A subtle psychological portrait of the author’s relationship with his father during the twentieth-century battle for Palestinian human rights. The father, Aziz Shehadeh, fearlessly resists under the British Mandate, then under Jordan, and finally under Israel. As a young man Raja fails to recognize his father’s courage, and, in turn, his father does not appreciate his efforts campaigning for Palestinian human rights. When Aziz is murdered in 1985, it changes Raja irrevocably.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*When the Birds Stopped Singing: Life in Ramallah under Siege.*

Steerforth, 2003, 160 p.

This is an account of what it is like to be under siege: the terror, the frustrations, the humiliations, and the rage. It is a chronicle of life as lived by ordinary Palestinians throughout the West Bank in the grip of the Israeli occupation.

### **Shehadeh, Raja.**

*Where the Line Is Drawn: Crossing Boundaries in Occupied Palestine.*

Profile Books, 2018, 240 p.

As a young lawyer, Raja worked to halt land seizures and toward peace and justice in the region. During this time he made close friends with several young Israelis. But as life became increasingly unbearable in the Palestinians territories, it was impossible to escape politics and the past. Given the devastating impact the Israeli occupation had on the lives of those living in the territories, Shehadeh wonders if the bonds of fragile friendships from across the Israeli-Palestinian border can exist, let alone survive.

### **Shihab, Aziz.**

*Does the Land Remember Me?: A Memoir of Palestine.*

Syracuse University Press, 2007, 176 p.

Summoned by his dying mother, Palestinian-born Aziz Shihab returns to a Palestine reclaimed by Israelis and to a country no longer that of his youth. Shihab's stories of departure and return, loss of land and reconnection provide insights into the culture and history of Palestine, as well as its legacy of displacement.

### **Shipley, David K.**

*Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land.*

Expanded and updated ed.

Crown, 2015, 768 p.

In this book, David Shipley delves into the origins of the prejudices that exist between Jews and Arabs and how they have been intensified by war, terrorism, and nationalism. He also writes about the people, their cultural and socio-economic differences, and their clashing historical narratives and reflects on the mental healing that needs to take place to bring about coexistence in the promised land.

### **Shlaim, Avi.**

*Three Worlds: Memoirs of an Arab-Jew.*

OneWorld Publication, 2023, 336 p.

Avi Shlaim tears up the script of the timeless clash between Arab and Jewish societies and the heroic mission of Zionism to rescue Eastern Jews from their backward nations. He describes how his Jewish family was living peacefully with the Muslim community in Baghdad. He claims that after the creation of the State of Israel, some antisemitism was increasing but that it was inflamed deliberately by the Zionist underground in Iraq.

**Tamimi, Ahed, and Dena Takruri.**

*They Called Me a Lioness: A Palestinian Girl's Fight for Freedom.*  
OneWorld Publications, 2023, 288 p.

A Palestinian activist jailed at sixteen after a confrontation with Israeli soldier, Ahed Tamimi demonstrates the daily struggles of life under occupation in this moving, deeply personal memoir.

**Tawil, Raymonda Hawa**

*My Home, My Prison.*  
1st American Ed.  
Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1980. 265 p.

This is the autobiography of Palestinian peace activist and journalist, Raymonda Hawa Tawil. Set against the backdrop of the first fifty years of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Tawil writes about her personal story living under Israeli occupation.

**Thrall, Nathan.**

*A Day in the Life of Abed Salama: Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy.*  
Metropolitan Books, 2023, 272 p.

A gripping, intimate story of a deadly accident outside Jerusalem that unravels over the course of one revealing, heartbreak day. Five-year-old Milad Salam is on his way to school when his bus collides with a semitrailer. The children have been taken to different hospitals in Jerusalem and the West Bank, so his father, sets out in a desperate quest to find his son. Through the prism of this tragic accident, Thrall paints an intricate picture of what life for the Palestinians is like under Israeli occupation.

**Tilley, Virginia, ed.**

*Beyond Occupation: Apartheid, Colonialism and International Law in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.*

Pluto Press, 2012, 352 p.

*Beyond Occupation* looks at Israel's practice toward Palestinians under occupation and considers whether international law truly applies to its policies. The contributors to the book present conclusive evidence that Israel's administration of the Palestinian territories is consistent with colonialism and apartheid, as these regimes are defined in human rights law.

**Tilley, Virginia.**

*The One-State Solution: A Breakthrough for Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Deadlock.*

University of Michigan Press, 2005, 276 p.

*The One-State Solution* demonstrates that Israeli settlements have already encroached on the occupied territory of the West Bank to the extent that any Palestinian state in those areas is

unviable. The book then addresses the daunting obstacles to a one-state solution, and offers some ideas about how these obstacles might be addressed.

**Tolan, Sandy.**

*The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East.*

Bloomsbury USA, 2007, 400 p.

This tale of a simple act of faith between two young people, one Israeli and one Palestinian, symbolizes the hope for peace in the Middle East. In it a young Palestinian journeys to Israel to look for the beloved stone house with the lemon tree his family left behind when they fled as result of the Nakba. He finds the house, but it is now occupied by the family of an Israeli college student with whom he forges a rare friendship that lasts for fifty years. The book was a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist.

**Wadi, Farouq.**

*Homes of the Heart: A Book about Ramallah.* Translated by Dina Bosio and Christopher Tingley

Interlink Books, 2006, 160 p.

Returning to his hometown of Ramallah after a long exile, the author is shocked to find the changes wrought by the Israeli occupation. The author's account of his early life in Ramallah is interwoven with vivid descriptions of the place then and now. It poignantly evokes the brutal disruption brought about by the ongoing tragic conflict in the region.

# Art and Culture

## Al-Ali, Naji.

*A Child in Palestine: The Cartoons of Naji al-Ali.*

Introduction by Joe Sacco.

Verso Books, 2009, 128 p.

Naji al-Ali, a Palestinian caricaturist who grew up in a refugee camp in Lebanon, achieved such renown later that he would see his cartoons published daily in newspapers from Cairo to Beirut, and from London to Paris. He strove to speak to and for the ordinary Arab people, and through his celebrated creation, the witness-child Handala, Naji al-Ali criticized the brutality of the Israeli occupation, the corruption of the Arab regimes in the region, and the suffering of the Palestinian people.

## Al-Saber, Samer, and Gary M. English. Eds.

*Stories Under Occupation: And Other Plays From Palestine.*

Seagull Books, 2020, 288 p.

Palestinian theater today is drawing increasing interest throughout the Arab World and beyond. This anthology presents contemporary plays from a number of Palestinian theater groups in English. They cover theater institutions in the West Bank, the Galilee, Gaza, and Jerusalem. The works gathered here draw from the physical and psychological realities of the occupation.

## Ankori, Gannit.

*Palestinian Art.*

Reaktion Books, 2006, 256 p.

Gannit Ankori's *Palestinian Art* is the first in-depth English-language assessment of contemporary Palestinian art. She traces its full history and development from its roots in folk art and traditional Christian and Islamic painting to the predominance of nationalistic themes and diverse media used today. She provides detailed interpretations of many works and considers the complex historical, geographical, political, and cultural contexts in which the art was created.

## Bullata, Kamal.

*Palestinian Art: From 1850 to the Present.*

Saqi Books, 2009, 363 p.

The diverse selection of pre-1948 paintings alongside contemporary media works highlight the political concerns of Palestinian artists and their unique contributions to modern Arab culture. Works by artists who live in Palestine are examined alongside those of artists from the Palestinian diaspora. Bullata is himself a well-known Palestinian artist and writer.

**Burris, Greg.**

*The Palestinian Idea: Film, Media, and the Radical Imagination.*

Temple University, 2019, 298 p.

The *Palestinian Idea* argues that it is only through film and media that hope can occasionally emerge amidst hopelessness and oppression. He analyzes the films of prominent directors Annemarie Jacir and Hany Abu-Assad to investigate the formation of Palestinian identity. He states that the Palestinian experience that is showcased in these films is made up of memories and stories that have otherwise been obscured or denied.

**Cook, Rajie.**

*A vision for My Father. The Life and Work of Palestinian-American Artist and Designer Rajie Cook.*

Interlink Books, 2017, 240 p.

Rajie Cook is the son of Palestinian immigrants who came to the US in search of peace and opportunity. This memoir tells the story of how their son made his mark on the international stage of graphic design. Cook's father was blinded by the ravages of cataract in the early 30s, so he could not share in the excitement of Rajie's starting a graphic design firm that was acclaimed for its excellence. Rajie was able to give sight back to his father, but he died before he could see his son shake the hand of an American president.

**Dabashi, Hamid, ed.**

*Dreams of a Nation: On Palestinian Cinema.*

Verso Books, 2006, 224p.

Over the last quarter-century, Palestinian cinema has become one of the most important artistic expressions of a much-maligned people. In *Dreams of a Nation*, following a preface by Edward Said, filmmakers, critics, and scholars discuss the social and artistic significance of Palestinian film.

**El-Haddad, Laila.**

*The Gaza Kitchen: A Palestinian Culinary Journey.*

3rd ed.

Just World Books, 2021, 336 p.

This new edition of an award-winning cookbook shares with readers the little-known but distinctive cuisine of the Gaza region of Palestine. Here are 130 kitchen-tested recipes with beautiful photos of Gazan cooks, farmers, and fresh produce merchants telling stories of their food, their heritage, and their families.

**El Khalidi, Leila.**

*The Art of Palestinian Embroidery.*

Saqi Books, 1999, 169 p.

Leila El Khalidi's work in identifying and recording the history and motifs in Palestinian embroidery is an important step to preserving the Palestinian heritage and is of interest to students of folk traditions. The book is illustrated with samples of late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century Palestinian costumes that are considered to be representative of Palestinian folk art at its best.

### **Farsoun, Samih K.**

*Culture and Customs of Palestinians.*

Greenwood, 2004, 192 p.

Samih Farsoun writes about the Palestinians' way of life under difficult conditions for the general reader. He sheds light on their modern social values, customs, the importance of the extended family, and women's roles in a continuing patriarchy. He also includes chapters on Palestinian embroidery, typical food dishes, modern literature, and the arts, including cinema.

### **Gertz, Nurith, and George Khleifi.**

*Palestinian Cinema: Landscape, Trauma, and Memory.*

Indiana University Press, 2008, 224 p.

One of the best sources for understanding Palestinian culture is its cinema, which has been devoted to serving the national struggle by defining and representing Palestinian history as well as portraying the daily lives of Palestinians. In this book, an Israeli and a Palestinian scholar follow the development of Palestinian cinema and its response to political and social transformations in the region.

### **Ghnaim, Wafa.**

*Tatreez and Tea.*

W. Ghnaim, 2008, 448 p.

Palestinian embroidery is a centuries-old folk art, traditionally passed from mother to daughter. Ghnaim brings it to life with forty-five cross-stitch patterns, six complete dress patterns, and tea, coffee, and quince jam recipes she received from her mother. She writes in detail about the history and meaning of each design and includes traditional Palestinian embroidery techniques and terminology.

### **Isleem, Nasser M.**

*Popular Proverbs: An Entrance to Palestinian Culture.*

Alucen Learning, 2009, 348 p.

A collection of over one thousand proverbs from Palestine and across the Arabic-speaking world provides an entertaining trove of knowledge for anyone with interest in this remarkable culture. Arabs take great pride in their language, which is evident in the frequent usage of proverbs in literature, the media, and everyday conversation.

### **Kalla, Joudie.**

*Palestine on a Plate: Memories from My Mother's Kitchen.*

Interlink Books, 2016, 240 p.

*Palestine on a Plate* is a celebration of real Palestinian food, cooked with ingredients that Joudie's mother used, and that her grandmother used before her. Here you will find old recipes created with love and appreciation of a rich heritage and culture.

### **Kassis, Reem.**

*The Palestinian Table.*

Phaidon Press, 2017, 256 p.

“A thoughtful collection of great recipes, historical and cultural insights, and beautiful photographs that will move you closer to understanding this complex, fascinating part of the world,” said Anthony Bourdain of this book. The book includes 150 authentic Palestinian recipes inspired by three generations of family tradition. It was nominated for 2018 James Beard Foundation Cookbook Award.

### **Khan, Yasmin.**

*Zaitoun: Recipes from the Palestinian Kitchen.*

W. W. Norton, 2019, 256 p.

Yasmin Khan unlocks the flavors and fragrances of Palestine in this book. She tells how Palestinian cuisine evolved over several millennia through the influences of Arabic, Armenian, Persian, Turkish, and Bedouin cultures that have thrived in the land of Palestine. In each place she visits, Khan enters the kitchens of Palestinians of all ages and backgrounds, discovering the secrets of their cuisine and sharing heart-lifting stories.

### **Khoury, Jamil.**

*Six Plays of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.*

McFarland & Company, 2018, 289 p.

A collection of six plays by Palestinian and Jewish playwrights that explore the human toll of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The playwrights are Motti Lerner, Hannah Khalil, Ismail Khalidi, Mona Mansour, Ken Kaisser, and Zohar Tirosh-Polk. They delve into themes of identity, justice, occupation, exile, history and homeland without trying to achieve balance or moral equivalency. Rather, they challenge tribalism and the narrow definition of nationalism.

### **Krohn, Zia, and Joyce Lagerweij.**

*Concrete Messages: Street Art on the Israeli-Palestinian Barrier.*

Dokument Press, 2010, 128 p.

The so-called separation wall on the Israeli-Palestinian border is full of scribbling, paintings, stencils, graffiti, and posters. Banksy is far from the only international street artist to use the wall as canvas. Concrete messages make their pieces and powerful messages available for the world to see. Street art has probably always been the most important art form for the instigation of social change.

### **Mitwasi, Faten Nastas.**

*Reflections on Palestinian Art: Art of Resistance or Aesthetics.*  
Diyar Publishers, 2016, 92 p.

Mitwasi presents an excellent overview of Palestinian art, and she analyzes it in the context of the different historical phases in which it was produced. The book offers in-depth reflections and examines the works of contemporary Palestinian artists in the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first century.

### **Munayyer, Hanan Karaman.**

*Traditional Palestinian Costume: Origins and Evolution.*  
Olive Branch Press, 2020, 560 p.

This book presents the most exhaustive study of the origins of Palestinian embroidery and costume, from antiquity through medieval Arab textile arts to the present. The lavish photography and the author's well-researched text make it a valuable resource that displays this unique art in all its splendor.

### **Mitwasi, Faten Nästas.**

*Sliman Mansour.*  
Michael Imhof Verlag, 2008, 112 p.

The work of the Palestinian artist Sliman Mansour is presented against the backdrop of the difficulty of life in Palestine. Mansour paints for a life in peace but also for the Palestinian cause. His paintings are influenced by the daily struggle of surviving. The author is the art coordinator at the Art Museum of Bethlehem and is a widely acknowledged artist herself.

### **Nabulsi, Waseem.**

*Under My Grandmother's Olive Tree: Poems and Art about Being Palestinian.*

Za'atar Publishing House, 2017, 46 p.

The poems and art that are included in this book are about the daily realities of Palestinians living through discrimination and hatred under the Israeli occupation and how they were able to rise above it through hope and unity. The book is beautifully illustrated by the author, who is a young Palestinian artist and poet.

### **Nasser, Christiane Dabdoub.**

*Classic Palestinian Cuisine.*  
Saqi Books, 2013, 224 p.

A collection of over one hundred traditional Palestinian dishes. Nasser's tips and anecdotes vividly bring to life the smells and flavors of Palestinian cooking as practiced in kitchens across the region for generations.

### **Odeh, Heifa.**

*Dine in Palestine: An Authentic Taste of Palestine in 60 Recipes from My Family to Your Table.*

Page Street Publishing, 2022, 168 p.

Heifa Odeh presents traditional Palestinian dishes that have been carefully adapted with streamlined techniques, making it easier to enjoy a taste of Palestine. The author is a Palestinian-American recipe developer and food blogger. She is the winner of *Saveur* magazine's 2019 Best Food Culture Blog.

### **Rahman, Najat.**

*In the Wake of the Poetic: Palestinian Artists after Darwish.*

Contemporary Issues in the Middle East Series

Syracuse University Press, 2015, 216 p.

Much of Palestinian art owes a debt to Mahmoud Darwish and to Palestinian writers of his generation. Rahman writes about the immense influence of Darwish's poetry on a new generation of performance artists, visual artists, spoken-word artists, and musicians. Rahman maintains that this generation's work is based on an aesthetic founded on loss, dispersion, dispossession, and transformation.

### **Shahin, Mariam.**

*Palestine: A Guide.*

Interlink Books, 2007, 512 p.

Well researched and enriched throughout with beautiful photography, this book covers historic sites, Palestinian art and traditions, foods, and costumes. It offers an authentic look and shows why, despite lacking legal status as a state, Palestine is a real place on the world map.

### **Shihab, Aziz.**

*A taste of Palestine: Menus and Memories.*

Corona Pub Co, 1993, 104 p.

The author's mother has cooked most of the recipes assembled in this book, and so he shares intimate memories of her and of his childhood in Palestine when Arab and Jews found it easier to live as friends.

### **Skinner, Margarita, and Widad Kamel Kawar.**

*Palestinian Embroidery Motifs: A Treasury of Stitches, 1850–1950.*

Rimal Publications, 2014, 206 p.

The tradition of embroidery is one of the great art forms in villages throughout Palestine. Over 200 Palestinian motifs are illustrated here, and each is identified by origin and names used on the old dresses.

**Tamimi, Sami.***Falastin.*

Ten Speed Press, 2020, 352 p.

Sami Tamimi recounts his upbringing with eleven siblings as he retraces the evolution of his country's cuisine, its distinct culinary traditions, and Palestinian cooks' ingenuity and resourcefulness. *Bon Appetit* proclaimed it one of the best cookbooks of the year.

**Tolan, Sandy.***Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land.*

Bloomsbury USA, 2016, 480 p.

The author tells the story of Ramzi Hussein Aburedwan, a child from a Palestinian refugee camp, who gets an education, masters an instrument, and dreams of something much bigger than himself. He realizes his dream, and he inspires others to work with him to change their lives through music. Daniel Barenboim, the Israeli conductor, invited him to join the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, which he founded with the Palestinian intellectual Edward Said.

**Weir, Shelagh.***Palestinian Costume.*

Interlink Books, 2008, 288 p.

This book surveys male and female fashions from the early nineteenth century to the end of the twentieth century, and it describes the main regional styles of costume, their material, and ornamentation against a background of Palestinian life and culture. The illustrations include photographs of magnificent garments in museum collections and recent costumes still made and worn.

**Yaqub, Nadia.***Palestinian Cinema in the Days of Revolution.*

University of Texas Press, 2018, 280 p.

The author presents an in-depth study of films between 1960 and 1982 and writes about Palestinian filmmakers and their practices, as well as the political and cultural contexts in which their films were created and seen. Yaqub also demonstrates that Palestinian filmmaking, as a cinema movement created under dire conditions, offers lessons on the nature and possibilities of political filmmaking in general.

# Fiction and Poetry

## Abu Toha, Mosab.

*Things You May Find Hidden in My Ear: Poems From Gaza.*

City Lights Publishers, 2022, 144 p.

Mosab Abu Toha writes about his life under siege in Gaza, and then as a young father. A survivor of four brutal military assaults by the Israeli army, he bears witness to a grinding cycle of destruction and violence, and yet, his poetry is inspired by a profound humanity. Winner of the American Book Award, and Arrowsmith Press's 2023 Derek Walcott Poetry Prize.

## Abu-Manneh, Bashir.

*The Palestinian Novel: From 1948 to the Present.*

Cambridge University Press, 2018, 245 p.

Abu-Manneh charts the development of the Palestinian novel after the national dispossession of the Nakba to the present. Both in exile and under occupation, the Palestinian novel unfolds as one that articulates humanism, self-realization, political challenge, and hope. Questions of struggle and self-determination take center stage.

## Abu-Saif, Atef. ed.

*The Book of Gaza: A City in Short Fiction.*

Comma Press, 2014, 224 p.

This anthology includes the work of twelve Palestinian prose writers, all of whom share stories set in Gaza, one of the world's most talked about cities. They range from highly acclaimed writers to exciting new voices in Arabic literature. Their work is presented in English translation for the first.

## Abulhawa, Susan.

*Against the Loveless World.*

Washington Square Press, 2021, 400 p.

Nahr, a young Palestinian woman, fights for a better life for her family as she travels as a refugee throughout the Middle East. Winner of the 2020 Palestine Book Award and a 2021 Aspen Words Literary Prize finalist, this powerful novel presents a searing, darkly funny, and wholly unique portrait of a Palestinian woman who refuses to be a victim.

## Abulhawa, Susan.

*The Blue between Sky and Water.*

Mornings in Jenin, LLC, 2022, 340 p.

When a Palestinian family is forced by the newly formed State of Israel to leave their ancestral home, only Nazmiyah and her brother survive the long road to Gaza. Amid the violence and fragility of the refugee camp, she builds a family, navigates crises, and nurtures what remains of her community. But her brother continues his exile's journey to America. The novel explores the legacy of dispossession across continents and generations.

### **Abulhawa, Susan.**

*Mornings in Jenin.*

Bloomsbury USA, 2010, 352 p.

*Mornings in Jenin* is a multigenerational story about a Palestinian family that was displaced after the Nakba in 1948. We follow the family as they live in the Jenin refugee camp through a half-century of violent history. There is always the waiting to return home. It is a moving human story of history, identity, love, terrorism, courage, and hope.

### **Abul al-Hayat, Maya, ed.**

*The Book of Ramallah: A City in Short Fiction.*

Reading the City series

Comma Press, 2021, 94 p.

Ramallah is the de facto capital of the West Bank, a city hemmed in and suffocated by the occupation. These stories show the quiet dignity, resilience, and humor of its people. Palestinians who take their lives into their hands every time they travel from one place to the next, who continue to live through sieges, still find the time and resourcefulness to create.

### **Abusalim, Jihad, ed.**

*Light in Gaza: Writings Born in Fire.*

Haymarket Books, 2022, 280 p.

Gaza continues to face suffocating conditions imposed by Israel. This anthology of Palestinian writers and artists imagines what the future of Gaza could be beyond the cruelties of occupation and apartheid, while affirming the critical role of Gaza in Palestinian identity, history, and struggle for liberation. *Light in Gaza* is a powerful contribution to understanding the Palestinian experience.

### **Alareer, Refaat, ed.**

*Gaza Writes Back: Short Stories from Young Writers in Gaza, Palestine.*

Just World Books, 2014, 208 p.

This compelling anthology of fifteen young writers in Gaza represents a generation that has suffered immensely under Israel's blockade and siege since 2007. Their words take us into homes and hearts of moms, dads, students, children, and elders striving to live lives of dignity, compassion, and meaning in one of the world's most embattled communities.

### **Al-Atrash, Leila.**

*A Woman of Five Seasons.* Translated by N. Halawani and C. Tingley.  
Interlink Books, 2001, 208 p.

The poor, the dispossessed, and the opportunists all flock to the newly oil-rich state of Barqais searching for wealth. The book explores the relations that develop between local high officials and the incoming heartland Arabs.

Al-Atrash also develops another theme, which is the coming of age of the Arab woman as she seeks to win a degree of independence and fulfillment in a traditionally patriarchal society.

### **Alyan, Hala.**

*Salt Houses.*  
Harper Perennial, 2018, 336 p.

Winner of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the Arab American Book Award, *Salt Houses* follows three generations of a Palestinian family and asks us to confront that most devastating of all truths: you can't go home again.

### **Azem, Ibtisam.** Translated by Sinan Antoon.

*The Book of Disappearance.*  
Syracuse University Press, 2019, 256 p.

What if all the Palestinians in Israel simply disappeared one day? How would Israelis react? These unsettling questions are posed in Azem's imaginative novel. Set in contemporary Tel Aviv forty eight hours after Israelis discover all their Palestinian neighbors have vanished. The story unfolds through alternating narrators. Antoon's translation of the critically acclaimed novel invites the English readers into the complex lives of Palestinians living in Israel.

### **Badr, Liana.**

*A Compass for the Sunflower.* Translated by Catherine Cobham.  
Quartet Books, 1990, 130 p.

Liana Badr's intense novel powerfully conveys the sense of the fragmented lives of Palestinians living under occupation. Families and friendships are blown apart by exile and war, while a young woman struggles to find meaning and coherence in her own life and the life of her people.

### **Badr, Liana.**

*The Eye of the Mirror: A Modern Arabic Novel from Palestine.*  
Garnet Publishing, 2022, 282 p.

Taken from the quiet sanctuary of a convent school where she works as a maid, Aisha is thrown back into the chaos of her parent's home in Tal Ezza'tar refugee camp when the Lebanese civil war begins. As a result, Aisha's family and friends suffer from events beyond their control.

### **Dabbagh, Salma.**

*Out of it: A Novel.*

Bloomsbury USA, 2012, 321 p.

Out of it follows the lives of Rashid and Iman as they try to forge places for themselves in the midst of occupation, the growing divide between Palestinian factions, and the rise of fundamentalism. Moving between Gaza, London, and the Gulf states, this book redefines Palestine and its people.

### **Darraj, Susan Muaddi.**

*A Curious Land: Stories From Home.*

University of Massachusetts Press, 2016, 288 p.

Darraj's short story collection about the inhabitants of a Palestinian West Bank village of Tel al-Hilou, spans generations and continent to explore ideas of memory, belonging, connection, and home. Winner go Grace Paley Prize in Short Fiction.

### **Darraj, Susan Muaddi.**

*Behind You Is the Sea.*

HarperVia, 2024, 256.

In her debut novel Susan Muaddi Darraj follows three interconnected Palestinian immigrant families in Baltimore. Each chapter belongs to a different character and functions as a stand-alone story. The characters come to life by transcending politics and breaking through preconceptions and stereotypes that reduce reduce Palestinians and Palestinian-Americans to cliches.

### **Darwish, Mahmoud.**

*The Butterfly's Burden.* Translated by Fady Joudah.

Copper Canyon Press, 2006, 327 p.

The leading poet in the Arab world, an artist, and an activist who attracted thousands to his public readings, Mahmoud Darwish (1941–2008) remains the eloquent witness of exile and belonging to the Palestinian people. This book includes love poems, sonnets, journal-like distillations, and lyrics that balance old literary traditions with new forms of poetic expression.

### **Darwish, Mahmoud.**

*In the Presence of Absence.* Translated by Sinan Antoon.

Archipelago, 2011, 200 p.

Darwish composed this remarkable elegy at the apex of his creativity but with the full knowledge that his death was imminent. Thinking it might be his final work, he summoned all his poetic genius to create this brilliant literary work.

### **Darwish, Mahmoud.**

*Memory of Forgetfulness: August, Beirut, 1982.* Translated by Ibrahim Muhamwi.

University of California Press, 2013, 224 p.

Darwish uses the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon as the setting for this sequence of prose poems. It is also a journey into personal and collective memory, as he sums up his views on literature and politics.

### **Darwish, Mahmoud.**

*State of Siege.* Translated by Munir Akash and Daniel Abdel-Hayy Moore. Syracuse University Press, 2010, 208 p.

Mahmoud Darwish, recipient of France's Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters medal, the Lotus Prize, and the Lannan Foundation Cultural Freedom Prize, is widely considered Palestine's most eminent poet. *State of Siege* was written while Darwish was under siege in Ramallah during the Israeli invasion of 2002.

### **Darwish, Mahmoud.**

*Unfortunately, It Was Paradise: Selected Poems.* Translated by Munir Akash and Carolyn Forché.

University of California Press, 2013, 224 p.

Mahmoud Darwish is a legend in Palestine and beloved as the voice of his people. This collection spans Darwish's career, nearly four decades, revealing an impressive range of expression and form. Fady Joudah's foreword, new to this edition, addresses Darwish's enduring legacy following his death in 2008.

### **Darwish, Najwan.**

*Exhausted On the Cross.* Translated by Kareem James Abu-Zeid. NYRB Poets, 2021, 144 p.

Darwish's poems cross histories, cultures, and geography, taking us from the grime of modern-day Shatila and the opulence of medieval Baghdad to the gardens of Samarkand, and the open-air prison of Gaza. Poem after poem evokes the humor in the face of despair, and the hope in the face of nightmare.

### **Darwish, Najwan.**

*Nothing More to Lose.* Translated by Kareem James Abu-Zeid. NYRB Poets, 2014, 128 p.

This is the first collection of poems by Palestinian poet Najwan Darwish to appear in English. With incisive imagery and passionate lyricism, Darwish confronts themes of equality and justice while offering radical rewriting of what it means to be both Arab and Palestinian living in Jerusalem, his birthplace.

### **Elad-Bouskia, Ami.**

*Modern Palestinian Literature and Culture.*

Routledge, 1999, 178 p.

The author looks at literature within the political and social context of Palestinian society, with a special focus on fiction written during the first and second Intifada of 1987–1993.

### **Faqir, Fadia.**

*Pillars of Salt.*

Interlink Books, 1998, 256 p.

Faqir tells the story of two women confined in a mental hospital in Jordan during and after the British Mandate. After initial tensions they become friends and share their live stories. The author was born in Amman and moved to Britain in 1984. Her work has been published in nineteen countries and translated into fifteen languages.

### **Ghalayini, Basma. ed.**

*Palestine + 100: Stories From a Century After the Nakba.*

Comma Press, 2019, 192 p.

The book poses a question to twelve Palestinian writers: what might your country look like in the year 2048 - a century after the trauma of the Nakba? Covering a range of approaches, from nightmarish dystopia to high-tech farce, these stories use the blank canvas of the future to reimagine the Palestinian experience today.

### **Glanville, Jo.**

*Qissat: Short Stories by Palestinian Women.*

Telegram Books, 2012, 190 p.

These diverse stories reflect the everyday concerns of Palestinians living in exile and under occupation. It is a rare showcase of Palestinian women writers across generations and places, including Gaza, Ramallah, the United States, and the Persian Gulf

### **Habayeb, Huzama.**

*Velvet: A Novel.*

Hoopoe, 2019, 312.

Hawwa is a survivor of the grinding hardship of a Palestinian refugee camp. Now, in her middle years, she falls in love and she begins to make plans for a new beginning. She sifts through her memories: stories of her family, her childhood, and her beloved mentor, Sitt Qamar, who taught her how to sew and to value herself. Winner of The Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature.

### **Habibi, Emile.**

*Saraya, the Ogre's Daughter: A Palestinian Fairy Tale.* Translated by Peter Theroux.

Ibis, 2006, 210 p.

This lyrical last novel by the leading Palestinian prose writer of the twentieth century is equal parts allegory, folk tale, memoir, political commentary, and ode to a ruined landscape. Essential reading for anyone interested in the literary landscape of the Middle East.

### **Habibi, Emile.**

*The Secret Life of Saeed: The Pessoptimist.* Translated by Salma Jayyusi and Trevor LeGassick.

Interlink Books, 2001, 192 p.

The story of Saeed, a Palestinian who became a citizen of Israel. He is a luckless fool whose tale tells of aggression and resistance, terror and heroism, and reason and loyalty that typify the hardships and struggles of Palestinians living in Israel. In a series of tragicomic episodes, he is gradually transformed from a gullible informer for the Zionist State, into a Palestinian—no hero but a simple man intent on survival and perhaps happiness.

### **Hammad, Isabella.**

*Enter Ghost.*

Grove Press, 2023, 336 p.

In this novel a Palestinian actress living in London returns to her homeland in Haifa for the first time since the Second Intifada. She becomes involved with a production of *Hamlet* in classical Arabic in the West Bank. The life that she once knew starts to give way to the daunting possibility of finding a new self in her ancestral home. Winner of the Sue Kaufman Prize for Fiction, *Enter Ghost* is a story of diaspora, displacement, and the connection to be found in family and shared resistance. Hammad was also awarded the 2018 Plimpton Prize for Fiction and the 2019 O. Henry Prize.

### **Hammad, Isabella.**

*The Parisian.*

Grove Press, 2019, 576 p.

Hammad writes about a pivotal period in Palestinian history through the journey and romances of one young man, from his studies in France during World War I to his return to Palestine at the dawn of its battle for independence. A masterful debut novel, winner of the Plimpton Prize.

### **Hammad, Suheir.**

*Born Palestinian, Born Black; and The Gaza Suite.*

Upset Press, 2010, 96 p.

A reprint of Suhair Hammad's first book of poems, *Born Palestinian, Born Black* originally published by Harlem River Press in 1996. This new edition comes with a new preface by the author and new poems titled *The Gaza Suite*.

### **Handal, Nathalie.**

*The Lives of Rain: Poems.*

Foreword by Carolyn Forché.

Interlinks Books, 2014, 208 p.

Nathalie Handal is an award-winning French-American poet and writer of Palestinian descent. She is also a professor at Columbia University. In this collection of poems, she brings forth a work of radical displacement, moving from continent to continent, giving voice to Palestinians of the diaspora. Her poems rally against warfare, occupation, and brutality,

### **Handal, Nathalie, ed.**

*The Poetry of Arab Women: A Contemporary Anthology.*

Interlink Books, 2015, 378 p.

In assembling this collection, Nathalie Handal introduced the poetry of Arab women living all over the world and writing in Arabic, French, English, and other languages. Translated by distinguished translators from around the world, the anthology showcases the works of eighty-three poets, among them Etel Adnan, Andree Chedid, Salma Khadra Jayyusi, Naomi Shihab Nye, and Fadia Tuqan. The book includes an illuminating introduction as well as extensive biographies of poets and translators.

### **Hasna, Bilal.**

*For a Palestinian.*

Methuen Drama, 2022, 63 p.

A play about the true story of a Palestinian translator named Wael Zuaiter. We follow him as he ventures through the orange groves of Jaffa, Rome's piazzas, and the Duty-Free aisles of Luton Airport. Bilal writes about what it means to be a Palestinian in the West.

### **Jabra, Jabra Ibrahim.**

*Cry in a Long Night.* Translated by William Tamplin.

Darf, 2022, 240 p.

This novel opens with Amin Samaa walking in his native city on a stormy night to the palace of his employer, an artistic heiress who has hired him to write the history of her Ottoman family. On his way he recalls his childhood in a nearby village, his father's death, and his family's move to the poorest section of the city. Thoughts of his estranged wife haunt him continually, and her sudden reappearance forces him to make a drastic decision.

### **Jabra, Jabra Ibrahim.**

*In Search of Walid Masoud.* Translated by Roger Allen and

Adnan Haydar.

Syracuse University Press, 2000, 304 p.

In this novel by one of Palestine's preeminent writers, Walid Masoud, a Palestinian intellectual, goes missing. He has been living in Baghdad since the war of 1948. As a member of an

organization engaged in armed struggle against Israel, suspicion arises that he has gone underground as a part of a political movement. Masoud leaves behind a lengthy but disconnected tape recording that Jabra artfully uses as the basis for his narrative.

### **Jarrar, Randa.**

*A Map of Home: A Novel.*

Other Press, 2008, 303.

Nidali, the rebellious daughter of an Egyptian-Greek mother and a Palestinian father, narrates the story of her childhood in Kuwait, her teenage years in Egypt, and her family's last flight to Texas. Funny, and heartbreaking, Jarrar presents a sharp, loving portrait of a middle class family, and the hardships all its members encounter in the region before and after the Gulf War of 1990.

### **Jayyusi, Salma Khadra, ed.**

*My Jerusalem: Essays, Reminiscences, and Poems.*

Olive Branch Press, 2005, 352 p.

Here is a passionate and eclectic collection of essays, poems, and scholarship that brings to life Jerusalem, the most enigmatic and compelling of cities. The book begins in today's Jerusalem, with its dispossessions and bloody conflicts, and moves backward in time to classical Jerusalem, working to disentangle the knots of the three great religions. Finally Jayyusi offers an emotional testament to the city's alluring physical qualities: its monuments, alleys, music, and its people.

### **Jebreal, Rula.**

*Miral.*

Penguin Books, 2010, 309 p.

*Miral* is a novel that focuses on remarkable women whose lives unfold in the turbulent political climate along the borders of Israel and Palestine. The book has been made into a major motion picture by the award-winning director Julian Schnabel.

### **Kanafani, Ghassan.**

*All That's Left to You: A Novella and Short Stories.*

Translated by May Jayyusi and Jeremy Reed.

Interlink Books, 2005, 152 p.

Ghassan Kanafani presents the vivid story of twenty-four hours in the real and remembered lives of a brother and sister to build the powerful rhythm of the narrative. The Palestinian attachment to land and family, and the sorrow over their loss, is symbolized by the young man's anger and shame over his sister's sexual disgrace. In this collection of stories, Kanafani is committed to portraying the miseries and aspirations of his people.

### **Kanafani, Ghassan.**

*Men in the Sun and Other Palestinian Stories.* Translated by Hilary Kilpatrick.

Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1998, 117 p.

The novel, first published in 1962, follows four Palestinian refugees of different generations as they seek to travel from refugee camps in Iraq to Kuwait where they hope to find work as laborers in the oil boom. The theme of the novel is homelessness and death. It reflects the catastrophic impact of the Nakba and its impact on the Palestinian people. Kanafani was a Palestinian author and politician, a leading member of the Popular Front of the Liberation of Palestine. He was assassinated by the Mossad in 1972.

### **Kanafani, Ghassan**

*Palestine's Children: Returning to Haifa and Other Stories.* Translated by Fadl al-Naqib.

Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2000, 199 p.

Each story in this book involves a child who is victimized by political events and circumstances but nevertheless participates in the struggle for a better future. Kanafani's novels and short stories received great recognition, and they were published in sixteen languages.

### **Khamis, Khulud.**

*Haifa Fragrants.*

Spinifex Press, 2015, 192 p.

A story of intertwined cultures and relationships, mixed with a creative drive for justice, meaning and love. This novel shows just what can happen when women challenge the limits of their world.

### **Kashua, Sayed**

*Second Person Singular*

Grove Press, 2013, 352 p.

Kashua is a Palestinian-Israeli who writes in Hebrew and breaks through cultural barriers. He communicates with a keen sense of the absurd and the particular alienation of someone struggling to straddle two worlds.

### **Khalidi, Ismail, and Naomi Wallace.**

*Returning to Haifa.*

Faber and Faber, 2018, 101 p.

This is Ghassan Kanafani's classic novella adapted for the stage by Ismail Khalidi and Naomi Wallace. The play premiered at the Finborough Theatre, London, in February 2018. It is the compelling story of two families - one Palestinian, one Israeli - forced by history into an intimacy they didn't choose.

### **Khalifa, Sahar.**

*The Inheritance.*

American University Press in Cairo, 2005.

Zayna, the protagonist in this novel, is the daughter of an American mother and a Palestinian father. She is confronted by problems of the sort that arise in culturally diverse families. Khalifa explores the constant search of identity among the children who are torn between two worlds and the struggle to adapt to one or the other.

### **Khalifa, Sahar.**

*My First and Only Love.* Translated by Aida Bamia.

Hoopoe, 2021, 400 p.

A deeply poetic account of love and resistance through a young woman's eyes, by acclaimed writer Sahar Khalifa, who is known in the Middle East as "the Virginia Woolf of Palestinian Literature." Khalifa spins an epic tale reaching from the fine days of the British Mandate to today with clear-eyed realism and great imagination.

### **Khalifa, Sahar.**

*Passage to the Plaza.* Translated by Sawad Hussain.

Seagull Books, 2020, 198 p.

Nuzha lives in a house of ill repute in Nablus, and she is shunned and shamed by her community. When the 1987 Intifada breaks out, Nuzha's abode becomes a sanctuary for those living in the neighborhood. For both the original and reluctant residents of the house, notions of freedom, love, respectability, nationhood, Palestinian identity, and the rights of women will be melted and reforged.

### **Khalifa, Sahar.**

*Wild Thorns.* Translated by Trevor LeGassick and Elizabeth Fernea.

Interlink Books, 2003, 208 p.

Winner of the Naguib Mahfouz Prize for Literature, this is one of Khalifa's best-known novels. Originally published in 1976, it is about a young Palestinian who returns from working in the Persian Gulf to support the resistance movement. He is shocked to discover that many of his fellow citizens have adjusted to life under the Israeli military rule. *Wild Thorns* was the first Arab novel to offer a glimpse of everyday life under Israeli occupation. With uncompromising honesty, Khalifa depicts the humiliation, bitter resignation, and determined resistance of Palestinians living in the occupied territories.

### **Khoury, Elias.**

*Gate of the Sun.*

Archipelago, 2005, 539 p.

First published in 1998 in Arabic, Elias Khoury's ambitious, insightful and provocative novel might be the true magnum opus of the Palestinian saga. The novel unfolds at the Shatila

Palestinian refugee camp outside Beirut, where a doctor tells a story to a man in a coma in an attempt to save his life. Well researched and deeply imagined, Khoury uses the flash back style of *1001 Arabian Nights* to tell stories of Palestine. He humanizes the complex Palestinian struggle for the reader, shedding light on the turbulent history with love and empathy.

**Khoury, Jamil, and Michael Malek Najjar, and Corey Pond. eds.**

*Six Plays of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.*

McFarland, 2018, 289 p.

The six plays investigate themes of identity, justice, occupation, exile, history, and homeland with honesty and integrity. The plays do not take sides but they do challenge tribalism and narrow definitions of nationalism.

**Lotayef, Ehab.**

*To Love a Palestinian Woman: Poems.*

Tsar Publications, 2010, 80 p.

Inspired by the rich poetic heritage of the Arab culture, *To Love a Palestinian Woman* includes works written over eight years. These poems can be described as personal and romantic, as well as public and political. The Palestinian national struggle is a dominant theme, and so is love.

**Maarouf, Mazen.**

*Jokes From the Gunmen.*

Granta Books, 2019, 176 p.

These are stories of what the world looks like from a child's pure and muddled perspective. They are stories of life in a war zone, tragic accidents, and painful encounters, and the important skill of making life into a joke. These are unforgettable stories by a fresh voice.

**Muhawi, Ibrahim, and Sharif Kanaan. eds.**

*Speak, Bird, Speak Again: Palestinian Arab Folktales.*

University of California Press, 2021, 464 p.

As native Palestinians, the authors collected tales from the regions of Galilee, Gaza, and the West Bank. They sought to determine which were the most widely known and selected the ones that best represent the Palestinian folk narrative tradition. This is an essential contribution to preserving the culture of Palestine, and a must for those who want to deepen their understanding of an enduring people.

**Musallam, Akram.**

*The Dance of the Deep-Blue Scorpion.*

Seagull Books, 2021, 132 p.

An experimental novel that explores the complexity of Palestinian identity through extended metaphor and dark humor. Absurd at times, the objective is to transcend the loss of territory and the erasure of history.

### **Mustafah, Sahar.**

*The Beauty of Your Face.*

W. W. Norton, 2021, 320 p.

Afaf Rahman, the daughter of Palestinian immigrants, is the principal of a Muslim school in the Chicago suburbs. One morning a shooter attacks the school. As she listens to his terrifying progress, we are swept back through her memories and into a profound exploration of one woman's life in a nation at odds with its ideals. The book was selected one of the *New York Times* 100 Notable Books of 2020.

### **Nassar, Hala Khamis, and Najat Rahman.**

*Mahmoud Darwish, Exile's Poet: Critical Essays.*

Foreword by Salma Khadra Jayyusi.

Interlink Books, 2006, 384 p.

Mahmoud Darwish is arguably the most important Palestinian poet of our time, and this book includes a collection of his translated poems, as well as a critical appraisal of his work as a whole. The editors have been mostly involved in the translation, and they explain the complexities of the original Arabic for the English reader. This is a scholarly book that testifies to the depth of Darwish's talent as a poet.

### **Nye, Naomi, Shihab.**

*The Tiny Journalist: Poems.*

BOA Editions LTD., 2019, 128 p.

Acclaimed poet Shihab Nye places her Palestinian American identity center stage in her full-length poetry collection for adults. The collection is inspired by the story of Janna Jihad Ayyad, the "youngest journalist in Palestine" who at age seven began to capture videos of anti-occupation protests using her mother's smart phone. Long an advocate for peaceful dialogue across all boundaries, Nye's poems put a human face on war and the violence that divides us from each other.

### **Nimr, Sonia.**

*Wondrous Journeys in Strange Lands.* Translated by Marcia Lynx Qualey.

Interlink Books, 2020, 224 p.

The story begins hundreds of years ago, and in *One Thousand and One Nights* style Sonia Nimr moves from one tale to the next. Her award-winning novel is a mixture of historical fiction, a colorful feminist fable, and a travel narrative told from the point of view of a young irrepressible Palestinian woman.

### **Qarmout, Nayrouz.**

*The Sea Cloak: & Other Stories.*

Comma Press, 2020, 112 p.

The stories are drawn from the author's experience of growing up in Gaza. Qarmout stitches together a patchwork of perspectives exploring what it means to be a Palestinian today. These stories offer a rare insight into one of the most talked about but least understood cities in the Middle East.

**Rahman, Najat.**

*In the Wake of the Poetic: Palestinian Artists After Darwish.*

Syracuse University Press, 2015, 2016 p.

Much of Palestinian art owes a debt to Mahmoud Darwish, one of the finest poets of his generation. In this book, the author explores the immense influence Darwish's poetry on a new generation of performance artists, visual artists, writers, poets, and musicians.

**Ramadan, Husam Issa, ed.**

*48 Palestinian Short Stories.*

Inner Child Press, 2023, 277 p.

The stories in this anthology explore the different experiences of Palestinians living in the occupied territories and in the diaspora.

**Rum, Etaf.**

*Evil Eye.*

Harper Perennial, 2024, 352 p.

The acclaimed best-selling author of *A Woman Is No Man* returns with a striking exploration of the expectation of a Palestinian-American woman, the meaning of a fulfilling life, and the ways our unresolved pasts affect our present. An NPR Best Book of the Year.

**Rum, Etaf.**

*A Woman Is Not a Man.*

Harper Perennial, 2020, 352 p.

This widely praised novel tells the story of three generations of Palestinian-American women struggling to find their inner voice within the confines of the Arab culture.

**Shammas, Anton.**

*Arabesques.* Translated by Vivien Eden.

NYRB Classics, 2023, 280 p.

Anton Shammas, a Palestinian Christian raised in Israel, writes in Hebrew as no Arab novelist has done before. The choice was provocative to both the Arab and Jewish reader. *Arabesque* is divided into two sections: "The Tale" and "The Teller." The first section tells of several generations of family life in a rural village and of the interplay of past and present. The second section is about the writer's voyage out of that world to Paris and the United States.

### **Shibli, Adania.**

*Minor Detail*. Translated by Elizabeth Jaquette.  
New Directions, 2020, 144 p.

A novel about war, memory, and the suffering of the Palestinian people. The narrative begins during the summer of 1949, one year after the Nakba. Israeli soldiers descend on an encampment of Bedouins in the Negev Desert, they capture a Palestinian teenager, and they rape her, kill her, and bury her in the desert. Decades later a young woman tries to uncover the details of the crime and becomes obsessed by it. Shibli is a celebrated Palestinian writer, now located in the UK.

### **Shibli, Adania.**

*Touch*. Translated by Paula Haydar.  
Clockroot Books, 2013, 160 p.

A powerful novella about an unnamed young girl who comes from a large Palestinian family in the West Bank. Shibli follows her as she tries to examine the world around her and find her place in it.

### **Shibli, Adania.**

*We Are All Equally Far from Love*. Translated by Paul Starkey.  
Clockroot Books, 2012, 144 p.

The book consists of eight short stories whose plots initially seem linked but soon disconnect one from another, just as her lovelorn characters break up and fail to connect. The acclaimed writer is known for her sparing style of writing that is a clear departure from the traditional style of most modern Arab novelists.

### **Shukair, Mahmoud.**

*Jerusalem Stands Alone*. Translated by Nicole Fares.  
Syracuse University Press, 2018, 20 p.

This series of quick moving vignettes explore the interconnected lives of Palestinians living under occupation Jerusalem. Shukair tells the stories of the daily tribulations and personal struggles of its Palestinian narrators. They are sons and mothers, soldiers and wives, all of whom share bittersweet memories of the past and present.

### **Teebi, Saeed.**

*Her First Palestinian and Other Stories*.  
Astoria, 2022, 256 p.

These are intense and engrossing stories about Palestinian immigrants in Canada navigating their identities in circumstances that push them to the emotional brink. They engage the immigrant experience and reflect the Palestinian diaspora with grace and insight.

**Tuffaha, Lena Khalaf.**

*Kaan and Her Sisters.*

Trio House Press, 2023, 86 p.

The story centers around Miss Sahar, an Arabic teacher whose progressive displacements from Palestine and across Arab cities unfold in dispatches and glimpses into the interiors of her lost home. These disclosures expose the sordid legacies of official historical record by women who keep intergenerational memory and resist their erasure.

**Tuqan, Fadwa.**

*A Mountainous Journey: A Poet's Autobiography.* Translated by Olive Kenny.

Graywolf Press, 1990, 241 p.

This is the autobiography of a compassionate and opinionated Palestinian woman, who is also one of the Arab world's most distinguished poets. Fadwa Tuqan was born in 1917 and she later emerged from a life of dictated attire and seclusion to become a politically active feminist, and an outspoken defender of the Palestinian cause.

**Zayyad, Tawfiq.**

*The Tent Generations: Palestinian Poems.*

Banipal Publishing, 2023, 160 p.

This volume gathers works by a select number of Palestinian poets over the past decades who give expression to the Palestinian experience under Israeli rule and Israeli occupation, as well as the experience of dispersion and displacement from their homeland following the Nakba.

# Books for Children and Young Adults

## **Abdel-Fattah, Randa.**

*Where the Streets Had a Name.* (8–12 years)  
 Scholastic Press, 2010, 320 p.

Thirteen-year-old Hayaat sets out on a mission to save her family. She believes that a handful of soil from her grandmother's ancestral home in Jerusalem will save her beloved sitti's life. The only problem is that Hayaat lives beyond the impenetrable wall that divides the West Bank, and they are on the wrong side of check points, curfew, and the travel permit system.

## **Abuzaina, Jennifer.**

*Let's Rhyme through Palestine.* (3-6 years)  
 Illustrations by Haya Kaabneh.  
 J. Abuzaina, 2022, 38 p.

Travel through different cities in Palestine such as Jericho and Ramallah with Amira. Learn interesting facts about Palestinian culture and food alongside beautifully painted pictures.

## **Barakat, Ibtisam.**

*Balcony on the Moon: Coming of Age in Palestine.* (12–18 years)  
 Square Fish, 2018, 256 p.

Ibtisam Barakat writes about her childhood and adolescence in Palestine from 1972 to 1981 in the aftermath of the Six-Day War. She chronicles her daily life growing up under politically charged and turbulent conditions. But that did not dampen her spirits, she still nurtured dreams to become a writer someday.

## **Barakat, Ibtisam.**

*Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood.* (11–15 years)  
 Square Fish, 2016, 208 p.

In this memoir Ibtisam Barakat captures what it is like to be a Palestinian child whose world is constantly being shattered by war. She writes about her love for writing and how that became her refuge from all the tumult surrounding her. This book was a winner of the Arab American Book Award.

## **Bashi, Golbarg.**

*P Is for Palestine: A Palestine Alphabet Book.* (3-6 years)  
 G. Bashi, 2018, 66 p.

An English-language ABC about Palestine, in simple rhyme with colorful illustrations, showcasing geography and the beauty and strength of Palestinian culture. This educational and empowering book provides the kind of positive reinforcement needed by children whose identity is constantly under attack.

**Bishara, Amahl.**

*The Boy and the Wall.* (7–10 years)  
Lajee Center, 2005, 24 p.

In this colorful book in English and Arabic, Amahl Bishara writes about the dire circumstances of children living in the Aida refugee camp near Bethlehem. The author reflects on what it must be like for a child to grow up in the shadow of the daunting wall that separates the West Bank from Israel across the border.

**Darraj, Susan Muaddi.**

*Farah Rocks Florida.* (8–11 years)  
Illustrated by Ruaida Manna.  
Stone Arch Books, 2021, 14 p.

Farah's little brother needs a serious heart surgery, so her parents send her to stay with her grandmother in a retirement community in Florida for a while. It Sitti Fayrouz does not speak English and has a lot of rules. Despite getting off to a bad start, Farah gradually begins to appreciate her grandparents and forms a friendship with Dr. Fisher, who shares her interest in science.

**Ebeid, Rifk.**

*Baba, What Does My Name Mean? A Journey to Palestine.* (4–8 years)  
Illustrations by Lamaa Jawahari.  
Rifk Ebeid, 2020, 32 p.

A young Palestinian girl asks her father what her name means, and he takes her on a journey to his beloved homeland to celebrate the richness of her cultural heritage.

**Ebeid, Rifk.**

*You Are the Color.* (4–12 years)  
R. Ebeid, 2022, 38 p.

After a frightening explosion in his homeland, Thaer's world is suddenly filled with a lot of darkness. *You Are the Color* is a story about the Palestinian refugee experience during the Nakba. Follow Thaer as he discovers the power of art to transform grief into hope, and find his secret to seeing color again.

### **Ellis, Deborah.**

*Three Wishes: Palestinian and Israeli Children Speak.* (11–15 years)  
 Groundwood Books, 2006, 144 p.

This book presents children talking about their lives in the turbulent Middle East. Their stories prove to be both ordinary and extraordinary. They argue with their siblings and have dreams for the future, yet they have also seen their homes destroyed and families killed and live amid constant upheaval and violence. Even though their lives are extraordinary because they seem to be caught in a conflict beyond their control, young readers will still be able to identify with those children, and see them for who they are.

### **Foty, Nadine.**

*Jenin and the Precious Palestine Pie.* (3–5 years)  
 N. Foty, 2023, 25 p.

This is a children's story about the Nakba. Jenin, a talented baker, is shocked when Sam steals her pie and later her shop. With the secret recipe of her homeland, Palestine has the power to help her reclaim what is rightfully hers: her pie, her shop, and her land.

### **Foty, Nadine.**

*My Name Is Palestine.* (3–8 years)  
 N. Foty, 2022, 24 p.

This book follows a Palestinian superhero who has a magical eye that sees a free Palestine. When she discovers a key in a hidden treasure chest, she realizes what she must do to let all the children have her magical power too.

### **Ghanameh, Aya.**

*These Olive Trees: A Palestinian Family's Story.* (3–5 years)  
 Viking Books for Young Readers, 2023, 40 p.

Oraib loves the olive trees that grow outside the refugee camp where she lives. Olives have always tied her family to the land. But war has come to their door once more, forcing them to flee. Oraib makes a solemn promise to her beloved olive trees: even if her family is uprooted, she will see to it that their legacy lives on.

### **Iglesias, Juan Pablo.**

*Daniel and Ismail.* (3–6 years)  
 Restless Books, 2019, 40 p.

This book tells the story of two boys, one Jewish and the other Palestinian, who overcome their parents' objections to form a friendship on the soccer field. The plot subtly acknowledges that a new generation will have to figure out how to make peace and that it is possible for children to lead us.

### **Kassis, Reem.**

*We Are Palestinian: A Celebration of Culture and Tradition.* (9 years +)

Illustrated by Noha Eilouti.

Crocodile Books, 2023, 112 p.

From food to music and literature, this book is a celebration of Palestinian heritage. It is filled with wonderful anecdotes, interesting facts, and memorable quotes. Discover the history of iconic Palestinian symbols like *tatreez* embroidery, the dabke folk dance, and traditional food like knafeh.

### **Khalilieh, Jackie.**

*Something More.* (12–17 years)

Tundra Books, 2023, 336 p.

This teen romance novel features a Palestinian-Canadian girl trying to hide her autism diagnosis while navigating her first year of high school. At Holy Trinity High she finds a world where things are no longer black-and-white and quickly learns that living in color is much more fun. But she gets more than she bargained for when two very different boys steal her heart.

### **Laird, Elizabeth.**

*A Little Piece of Ground.* (9–12 years)

Haymarket Books, 2016, 228 p.

Written by one of Britain's best-known authors of books for young adults, *A Little Piece of Ground* explores the human cost of the occupation of Palestinian lands through the eyes of a twelve-year old boy. This powerful book fills a substantial gap in existing young adult literature on the Middle East.

### **MacDonald, Margaret Read.**

*Tunjur! Tunjur! Tunjur! A Palestinian Folktale.* (4–8 years)

Two Lions, 2012, 32 p.

There was once a woman who had a little pot for a child. *Tunjur!* was the sound the pot made as it rolled everywhere. The pot wasn't old enough to know right from wrong, and she ran off with things that did not belong to her until she learned her lesson.

### **Marston, Elsa.**

*The Olive Tree.* (4–8 years)

Illustrated by Claire Ewart.

Wisdom Tales, 2004, 32 p.

*The Olive Tree* follows two children as they learn to share and work together by looking past their differences. It shows readers that compassion and understanding lie at the heart of all friendships.

### **Marx, Trish.**

*Sharing Our Homeland: Palestinian and Jewish Children at Summer Peace Camp.* (3–8 years)

Lee & Low Books, 1017, 48 p.

Alya, a Palestinian girl, and Yuval, an Israeli boy, are off to Peace Camp. They are excited but a little apprehensive. At camp they enjoy two weeks of fun in close contact with one another. The children begin to see each other as friends. They learn not to be afraid and to respect each other's differences.

### **Mattar, Malak.**

*Sitti's Bird: A Gaza Story.* (4–7 years)

Crocodile Books, 2022, 32 p.

A sensitive and heart-warming story of how a little girl in Gaza finds strength and hope through her painting, this book is written and illustrated by a Palestinian artist and reflects her experience of childhood in Palestine.

### **Moushabeck, Hannah.**

*Homeland: My Father Dreams of Palestine.* (5–8 years)

Illustrated by Reem Madooh.

Chronicle Books, 2023, 40 p.

A Palestinian father weaves memories of his youth in the Old City of Jerusalem into bedtime stories for his three daughters, and they end up falling in love for a place they've never been. His stories are love letters to home, to family, and to a homeland that is close to the heart of every Palestinian.

### **Nabhan, Nasser.**

*Yalla, Let Me Show You Palestine.* (5–8 years)

Illustrated by Miranda Chars.

Katheeb, 2021, 34 p.

This is the story of a proud child who embarks on an exciting task on his first day of school: explaining the uniqueness and joy of his culture to his peers. Join Yousef on his imaginative journey to celebrate friendship, history, food, and art.

### **Nimr, Sonia.**

*Ghaddar the Ghoul, and Other Palestinian Stories.* (7 years and up)

Illustrated by Hannah Shaw.

Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2008, 96 p.

In this engaging compilation of Palestinian folk tales, young readers are entertained by stories of charismatic women, genial tricksters, mischievous animals, and other colorful characters.

**Nye, Naomi Shihab.**

*19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East. (13 years +)*  
Greenwillow Books, 2002, 160 p.

A collection of sixty of Nye's poems about the Middle East and her Arab heritage, as well as about the Arab-American experience. Many of them have appeared in previous collections, but others are published here for the first time. A National Book Award finalist, *School Library Journal* Best Book, and Parent's Choice Silver Honor winner.

**Nye, Naomi Shihab.**

*Cast Away: Poems for Our Time. (8–12 years)*  
Greenwillow Books, 2021, 176 p.

The Young People's Poet Laureate from 2019 to 2021, Naomi Shihab Nye writes about the things we cast away, from plastic water bottles to those less fortunate. A deeply moving and sometimes funny poetry collection for all ages.

**Nye Naomi Shihab.**

*Everything Comes Next: Collected and New Poems. (8–12 years)*  
Greenwillow Books, 2022, 256 p.

A collection of award-winning poet Naomi Shihab Nye's most popular and new poems. It is enriched by the artwork of best-selling artist Rafael Lopez. Nye also includes writing tips for aspiring young writers.

**Nye, Naomi Shihab.**

*Habibi. (10–13 years)*  
Simon & Schuster, 1999, 272 p.

Liyana's father decides to move his family from St. Louis all the way back to Palestine where he originally came from. She knows very little about her family's Arab heritage, and she does not know Arabic. She meets a Jewish boy in Palestine, and they become friends. A touching tale showcasing the true meaning of roots, love, and understanding.

**Nye, Naomi Shihab.**

*Sitti's Secrets. (5–8 years)*  
Aladdin Picture Books, 1997, 32 p.

This book is a gentle, poetic evocation of a Palestinian American girl's visit to her grandmother (sitti) and cousins who live "on the other side of the earth." They can't speak each other's language, so they make up their own. They learn about each other's worlds, and they discover each other's secrets.

**Nye, Naomi Shihab.**

*Words under the Words: Selected Poems. (13 years +)*  
The Eighth Mountain Press, 1994, 160 p.

The book is a collection of some of the finest poems by the acclaimed Naomi Shihab Nye. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the Ivan Sandrof Award for Lifetime Achievement from the National Book Critics Circle. From 2010 to 2015 she served as a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.

### **Palette, Penelope.**

*My First Book—Palestine: All about Palestine for Kids.*

P. Palette, 2023, 42 p.

This book covers all the important elements in getting to know Palestine. Combining fun and education, the author write about music, sports, customs and food to help children learn about the country.

### **Robinson, Anthony, and Annemarie Young. (9–12 years)**

*Young Palestinians Speak: Living under Occupation.*

Interlink Books, 2016, 144 p.

These are children who have grown up experiencing life under occupation. They know only fear when they see an Israeli soldier or come across a roadblock. This book provides a platform for them to speak about their day-to-day lives, their fears, and their dreams for the future.

### **Saleh, Eman.**

*The Great Labneh Trade. (ages 3–10 years)*

E. Saleh, 2022, 58 p.

Ahmed was reluctant to pack labneh sandwiches for lunch because he did not want to be different from the other kids. With the help of his mother he learns to embrace his Arab heritage by spreading his love of labneh sandwiches with his friends at school.

### **Salem, N.**

*The Olive Tree Said to Me. (ages 3–10 years)*

Zaytoun, 2021, 34 p.

Discover the beauty of Palestine through a young girl's journey as she learns about the olive harvest, a tradition that continues, handed from generation to generation to maintain the roots of the Palestinian community.

### **Sarsour, Linda.**

*We're in This Together. (8–12 years)*

A Young Readers Edition of *We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders*

S&S Books for Young Readers, 2023, 240 p.

An empowering young reader's edition of *We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders* by Women's March co-organizer and activist Linda Sarsour. The author shares the memories of events that shaped her into the activist she is today.

### **Shami, Wafa.**

*Easter in Ramallah.* (5–7 years)

Illustrated by Shaima Farouki.

Bowker, 2019, 35 p.

A story about friendship and holiday traditions that have been shared among Palestinian Christian and Muslim families for centuries. It takes the reader to a fun and festive place that is filled with love and laughter, viewed through the eyes of a child.

### **Shami, Wafa.**

*Olive Harvest in Palestine: A Story of Childhood Memories.* (5–7 years)

Illustrated by Shaima Farouki.

Bowker, 2019, 34 p.

This story relates the harvest traditions that have been shared among Palestinian farmers for centuries. Readers journey from how olives are picked, through how they are pressed into oil, bottled, and finally arrive in the consumer's hands. The festive working atmosphere is filled with singing, eating, love, and laughter, viewed through the eyes of a child.

### **Tlaib, Rashida, and Adam Tlaib.**

*Mama in Congress: Rashida Tlaib's Journey to Washington.* (4–8 years)

Clarion Books, 2022, 40 p.

An inspiring picture book that tells the story of Rashida Tlaib, the first Palestinian-American elected to Congress. As Adam tells his mom's story, he reveals information about how elections and our government works, and what it means to break barriers.

### **Tolan, Sandy.**

*The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East.* (9–11 years)

Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2020, 208 p.

A young readers' adaptation of the author's 2007 book by the same title (see "History and Politics" section).

### **Wardeh, Lubna.**

*Where Is It?* (9–11 years)

Translated by Iman Z. Tarawneh. Illustrated by Amani Yousef.

L. Wardeh, 2023, 32 p.

Zenah is playing with her classmates in school in Canada when she is surprised to learn that her friends have never heard of Palestine. So Zenah rushes to Grandma to ask her to tell the story of Palestine.

## Films and Videos

### ***Advocate (2019)***

110 min.

Directed by Rachel Leah Jones and Philippe Bellaiche.

A look at Israeli human-rights lawyer Lea Tsemel, who has fought for justice for almost fifty years in a court system that discriminates against Palestinians. *Advocate* is a reminder to audiences everywhere of the importance of the rule of law and its equal application to one and all. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, Google Play, and YouTube.

### ***Al Helm: Martin Luther King in Palestine (2004)***

92 min.

An African-American gospel choir is the Greek chorus for a Palestinian play about Martin Luther King Jr. which tours the West Bank preaching nonviolence. The personal and cultural exchange between the African-American singers and the Palestinian actors takes center stage, and over the course of their journey, their ideas about each other are radically transformed. At the end of their tour, the connection between the civil-rights struggles in the US in the 1960s and the struggle of the Palestinian people today surfaces to the forefront and mirrors the play on MLK, a man who died for his beliefs. Streaming on Vimeo.

### ***Al-Nakba (2008)***

192 min.

The ethnic cleansing that occurred during the creation of the State of Israel is known to Palestinians as Nakba, which means “catastrophe.” This four-part documentary series starts in 1799, during the French Revolution, and gives a comprehensive history of the events that eventually led to the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians and the seizure of their property. Aljazeera English channel.

### ***Amreeka (2009)***

96 min.

Written and directed by Cherien Dabis.

This feature film is the uplifting story of a resilient Palestinian mother and her teenage son coping with culture clash and struggling to make a new life for themselves in rural Illinois. They face racism, discrimination, and unemployment in their adopted land. Winner of the FIPRESCI Critics Prize at Cannes Film Festival in 2009. Dabis was named by *Variety* as one of ten directors to watch that year. Streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

***Area C (2018)***

10 min.

Directed by Salah Abu Nimah.

Nearly two-thirds of the West Bank is classified as “Area C” under the Oslo Accords. It contains many of the Israeli settlements. Israel exclusively administers the area and severely limits Palestinian development. By contrast, Jewish settlements are allowed to flourish unchecked, and settlers run rampant over their Palestinian neighbors. Available via the Palestinian Film Institute.

***Arna's Children (2003)***

84 min.

Directed by Juliano Mer Khamis and Danniell Danniell.

Activist Arna Mer Khamis married a Palestinian Arab and spent her life campaigning for justice in her homeland of Israel. Five years after her death, Arna's son Juliano returns to the now-closed theater camp area founded for Palestinian children. Winner of the Best Documentary Feature at the Tribeca Film Festival. Streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

***Between Two Crossings (2018)***

105 min.

Directed by Yasser Murtaja.

The documentary follows Nour al Ghussein, a young woman from Gaza who was offered a full scholarship to study business from Portland State University. The film shadows the intrepid Nour as she struggles to overcome the draconian Israeli restrictions on Gazans who wish to leave the strip, even if they have the most compelling case to do so. The documentary was directed by Yasser Murtaja, a Palestinian journalist and filmmaker who was shot and killed by an Israeli sniper in 2018 while covering the great March of Return on the Gaza-Israel border. For streaming information contact [aflamuna.online@aflamuna.org](mailto:aflamuna.online@aflamuna.org)

***Be Quiet (2005)***

19 min.

Directed by Sameh Zoabi.

This short film follows a brief voyage that for most people in the world would be of little consequence. But for these two Palestinians, father and son, it is a dangerous and difficult journey on account of the reality of life under Israeli military occupation in the West Bank. Winner of four awards for best short film and screened at the Cannes Film Festival 2005.

***Born in Gaza (2014)***

54 min.

Written and directed by Hernan Zin.

This film focuses on the violence of the Israel-Palestine conflict and its effect on the children of Gaza. The documentary follows the story of ten children who tell what their daily life is like after the horror of the war in Gaza in the summer of 2014. Streaming on Netflix

### ***Boycott (2021)***

74 min.

Directed by Julia Bacha.

A documentary about three people who opted to launch legal battles when they had to choose between political beliefs or their careers. Over thirty US states have introduced anti-boycott legislation designed to penalize individuals and companies that choose to boycott Israel due to its human rights record. Watch on YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, and Google Play.

### ***The Brazilian Palestine (2017)***

79 min.

Directed by Omar L. de Barros Filho.

The Brazilian state Rio Grande do Sul houses thousands of Palestinian immigrants and their descendants. Those are Palestinians who found their way to Brazil after being displaced from their homeland as a result of the Nakba. The film follows six families as they endure prejudice and discrimination and struggle to achieve full integration in the Brazilian society.

### ***Bye Bye Tiberias (2023)***

82 min.

Directed by Lina Soualem. Written by Lina Soualem and Nadine Naous.

Years after leaving her Palestinian village to pursue an acting career in France, Hiam Abbass returns home with her daughter, director Lina Soualem, who presents an intimate documentary about four generations of women and their shared legacy. The film humanizes Palestinian women and the complex choices they make throughout their lives. This will be the Palestinian entry for Best International Feature Film of the 96th Academy Awards. It premiered in the Venice International Film Festival in September 2023. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Children of Shatila (1998)***

50 min.

Directed by Mai Masri.

Mai Masri focuses on the daily lives of two children who have grown up in Beirut's Palestinian Shatila refugee camp. This deeply moving documentary sheds light on the comparison between the dreams expressed by these children and the daily misery and oppression their parents face. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Chronicles of a Disappearance (1996)***

88 min.

Written and directed by Elia Suleiman.

After living in New York for years, Palestinian filmmaker Elia Suleiman documents his return to his homeland which has now become the state of Israel. With his camera, he silently records his

wanderings through the streets of Nazareth and Jerusalem. But his silence is eloquent as he portrays the loss of national identity in Israel's Arab population. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Cinema Palestine (2014).***

78 min.

Directed Tim Schwab.

Tim Schwab was so inspired by the quality and breadth of work being created by Palestinian filmmakers under the most difficult conditions that he decided to document it on film. *Cinema Palestine* features interviews with a wide range of filmmakers as well as excerpts from award-winning films. He also explores the implications of this important cinema on Palestinian national identity.

### ***The Crossing (2017)***

11 min.

Written and directed by Ameen Nayfeh.

Shady and his sister Maryam are very excited to visit their sick grandfather on the other side of the wall, and their elder brother Mohammed arrives in a hurry with the permit to cross. They arrive to the checkpoint, but they are hampered by the routine harassment, humiliation, and provocation that confronts every Palestinian who attempts to make that crossing. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Divine Intervention (2002)***

92 min.

Written and directed by Elia Suleiman.

Separated by checkpoint, Palestinian lovers from Jerusalem and Ramallah arrange clandestine meetings. Suleiman offers a sensitive, and innovative vision of this complex situation and the tragic consequences that result from it.

A Palme d'Or nominee and Jury Prize winner at the Cannes Film Festival 2002. Watch on Amazon Prime Video.

### ***The Dupes (1972)***

107 min

Directed by Tewfik Saleh

The film is based Ghassan Kanafani's "Men in the Sun". Tewfik Saleh's gut-wrenching migrant drama follows three Palestinian exiles as they make a dangerous journey from Syria to Kuwait across the desert in a tank truck. Considered "a classic masterpiece of Arab cinema". Winner of Carthage Film Festival. For rental and screening information contact [info@arabfilm.com](mailto:info@arabfilm.com)

### ***Eyes of a Thief (2014)***

93 min.

Written and directed by Najwa Najjar.

A father with a dangerous secret searches for his daughter in this realistic depiction of life in occupied Palestine. This film was Palestine's official submission in the Best Foreign Language Film category of the 87th Academy Awards in 2015. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Farha (2021)***

92 min.

Written and directed by Darin Sallam.

As violence breaks out in 1948 Palestine, a father hides his fourteen-year-old daughter, Farha, inside a locked pantry and promises to return. The film is based on a true story recounted to Sallam's mother by a friend about her experience during the Nakba, in which hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were expelled from their homeland. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Father K (2008)***

34 min.

Directed by Judd Ehrlich.

Palestinian Lutheran pastor Khader El-Yateem runs to become New York city's first Palestinian-American elected official in his Brooklyn neighborhood. His marginalized community has high hopes that he will be able to solve some of their concerns. But they soon realize that Father K must face the realities of what it takes to build lasting power in a divided America. Watch on YouTube, Google Play, Apple TV.

### ***5 Broken Cameras (2011)***

94 min.

Directed by Emad Burnat and Guy Davidi. Written by Guy Davidi.

This film shows the Israeli occupation through the eyes of a small village and its people from 2005 to 2010. It depicts the struggle Palestinians go through every day, treated like animals by the young Israeli soldiers who harass them.

It documents one farmer's chronicle of his nonviolent resistance to their actions. Watch on Amazon Prime Video.

### ***Flying Paper (2014)***

51 min.

Directed by Nitin Sawhney and Roger Hill.

A documentary about Palestinian youth in Gaza working to break the Guinness World Record for the most kites ever flown. The film explores the challenges these children face while allowing them space to speak for themselves and enjoy their childhood. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, YouTube.

### ***The Foragers (2022)***

64 min.

Directed and produced by Jumana Manna.

*Foragers* depicts the dramas around the practice of foraging for wild edible plants such as artichoke-like akkoub and za'atar (thyme) in Palestine and Israel. Shot in the Golan Heights, the Galilee, and Jerusalem, it uses fiction, documentary, and archival footage to portray the impact of Israeli nature protection laws on these customs. For Palestinians, these laws constitute an ecological veil for legislation that further alienates them from their land.

### ***Frontiers of Dreams and Fears (2001)***

56 min.

Directed by Mai Masri.

This film explores the lives of a group of Palestinian children growing up in separate refugee camps. It focuses on two teenage girls, Mona and Manar, and reveals their lives, dreams, and growing relationship via email. They finally have a dramatic face-to-face meeting at the fence that separates them at the Lebanese-Israeli border. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Gaza (2019)***

92 min.

Directed by Garry Keanne.

A portrait of everyday Gaza citizens leading meaningful lives beyond the rubble of perennial conflict. *Gaza* is about a people whose lives are shaped by tragedy and conflict but are not defined by it. It was an official selection at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. Watch on Amazon Prime Video.

### ***Gaza Calling (2012)***

64 min.

Directed by Nahed Awwad.

Families living in the West Bank and Gaza are not allowed to meet in person, they can only speak on the phone and by video chat. That is because they share the same “crime”: being registered with a Gaza address in their identity cards. Under Israeli rule, they are considered “infiltrators” in their own land. Their lives have turned into a permanent struggle.

### ***Gaza Fights for Freedom (2019)***

84 min.

Written and directed by Abby Martin.

This is a documentary about the historic Great March of Return protests, which occurred every week from March 2018 until December 2019, but it covers much more. It tells the story of Gaza past and present, showing rare archival footage that explains the history never acknowledged by mass media.

### ***Gaza Footbullet (2021)***

35 min.

Directed by Iyad Alasttal.

In 2019, a team of amputee footballers from Gaza was welcomed in France for friendly meetings with the French football amputee team. Iyad Alasttal records the lives of four young men daring to dream in Gaza, a land sealed off from the rest of the world. Together they unite on the football field, the only place where they can forget about all their hardships in war-torn Gaza.

### ***Gaza Mon Amour (2020)***

87 min.

Written and directed by Tarzan and Arab Nasser.

An old fisherman falls in love with Siham, a woman who works at the market, and decides he wants to marry her. One day he finds an ancient statue of Apollo in his fishing nets, a discovery he feels will change his life. *Gaza Mon Amour* is a quirky, entertaining film that offers a charming glimpse into life in contemporary Palestine. Watch on Apple TV, YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, and Google Play.

### ***Gaza Surf Club (2016)***

96 min.

Directed by Philip Gnadt.

Trapped in the world's largest open-air prison, and sick of the occupation and the political gridlock, groups of young Gazans are drawn to the beaches seeking a sense of freedom and meaning through surfing.

Watch on Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV.

### ***Ghost Hunting (2017)***

94 min.

Directed by Raed Andoni.

Released Palestinian prisoners of Israel relive harrowing experiences from their time in Israeli detention facilities. *Ghost Hunting* was awarded best documentary at the Berlinale 2017. It was selected as the Palestinian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards, but it was not nominated.

### ***Girafadda (2013)***

85 min.

Directed by Rani Massalha. Written by Xavier Nemo.

In a scrappy West Bank zoo, a lone veterinarian and his ten-year-old care for the animals as best they are able. The boy has a special fondness for giraffes. When the noise and chaos from an Israeli airstrike kills one of the giraffes, its mate goes on a hunger strike. The vet and his son embark on a journey to find a companion for the surviving

mate from a Tel Aviv safari park and smuggle it to the zoo in the West Bank. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Habibi (2012)***

85 min.

Written and directed by Susan Youssef.

Set in Gaza, this film is a modern retelling of the forbidden love story between seventh-century poet Qays Ibn al-Mulawwah and his one and only Layla. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***I Am from Palestine (2023)***

5 min.

Written by Rifk Ebeid.

This is the animated story of a Palestinian-American girl who anxiously starts her first day of school. She finds her identity in question when faced with a world map that doesn't include her homeland.

### ***Idol (2015)***

100 min.

Directed by Hany Abu-Assad.

Talented teenage singer Mohamad Assaf travels from Gaza to Egypt to audition for the television show *Arab Idol*. Streaming on Netflix, YouTube, Apple TV, and Google Play.

### ***Inch'Allah (2012)***

102 min.

Written and directed by Anais Barbeau-Lavalette.

A Canadian medical doctor with the Red Crescent splits her time between Ramallah in the West Bank and Jerusalem in Israel. She finds her loyalties torn as she witnesses the effects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on her friends, colleagues, and patients on both sides of the border. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, Google Play, and YouTube.

### ***The Insult (2017)***

113 min.

Written and directed by Ziad Doueiri.

After an emotional exchange between a Lebanese Christian and a Palestinian refugee escalates, the men end up in a court case that gets national attention, forcing the two men to reconsider their lives and prejudices. Oscar nominee for Best Foreign Language Film. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, YouTube, Google Play, and Apple TV.

***Ismail (2023)***

28 min.

Directed by Nora al-Sharif.

A documentary about the life of the famous Palestinian painter Ismail Shamout. It depicts him as a young artist struggling to survive and support his parents and young brother after Israeli forces expel them to a refugee camp in 1948.

***Israelism (2023)***

84 min.

Directed by Erin Axelman and Sam Eilertsen. Produced by Daniel Chalfen and Nadia Saah.

When two young American Jews raised to unconditionally love Israel witness the brutal way Israel treats Palestinians, their lives take a sharp left turn. They join a movement of young American Jews battling the old guard to redefine Judaism's relationship with Israel, revealing a deepening generational divide over modern Jewish identity. Winner of awards for Best Documentary in Arizona, Big Sky, Tallgrass, Brooklyn, Dallas, and San Francisco Film Festivals. For screening requests: [Booking@israelismfilm.com](mailto:Booking@israelismfilm.com); for rent (\$5): [contact@israelismfilm.com](mailto:contact@israelismfilm.com).

***It Must Be Heaven (2019)***

97 min.

Written and directed by Elia Suleiman.

Elia Suleiman escapes from Palestine seeking an alternative homeland, only to find that Palestine is trailing behind him. The promise of a new life fails to materialize however far he travels from Paris to New York. *It Must Be Heaven* earned a special mention at the Cannes Film Festival 2019.

***It's Better to Jump (2014)***

75 min.

Directed by Gina Angelone, Mouna Stewart, and Patrick Stewart.

There is a centuries-old seawall in the ancient city of Akka, located on Israel's northern coast. There is a tradition for young people to stand atop the forty-foot-tall, one-meter-thick block structure and risk their fate by jumping into the Mediterranean Sea below. This award-winning documentary is about more than the rite of passage for the children of Akka. It also covers the radical demographic changes and the harsh economic pressures imposed by the Israeli government on the Palestinians citizens of Akka. Watch on Amazon Prime Video.

***Jenin, Jenin (2002)***

54 min .

Directed by Mohamed Bakri.

This award-winning documentary film covers the massacre that took place in the Jenin refugee camp in 2002, which was part of a comprehensive invasion of the Israeli occupation in the West Bank.

***Knowledge Is the Beginning (2005)***

90 min.

Directed by Paul Smaczny.

This award-winning documentary covers a renowned conductor using music to show the urgent need for peace in the Middle East. Daniel Barenboim established the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra with the late Edward Said in order to bring together young Israeli and Palestinian musicians to perform together. The Ramallah concert was a live recording in August 21, 2005. Watch on Prime Video, YouTube, and Apple TV.

***The Law in These Parts (2012)***

101 min.

Written and directed by Ra'anan Alexandrowicz.

This is a documentary about Israel's military legal system in the Palestinian occupied territories. Since Israel conquered the West Bank and Gaza it has imposed thousands of orders, established military courts, sentenced hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, enabled half a million Israeli settlers to move to the occupied territories, and established a system of long-term jurisdiction by an occupying army that is unique in the entire world. The film is in Hebrew with English subtitles. Watch on Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV.

***Lemon Tree (2008)***

106 min.

Directed by Eran Riklis and written by Suha Arraf.

The story of a Palestinian widow who must defend her lemon tree field when a new Israeli defense minister moves next to her and threatens to have her lemon grove torn down. Streaming on Netflix.

***Like Twenty Impossibles (2003)***

17 min.

Written and directed by Annemarie Jacir.

Military checkpoints are spread all over the Palestinian landscape. When a Palestinian film crew decides to avert a closed checkpoint by taking a remote side road, the passengers are slowly taken apart by the mundane brutality of military occupation. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Little Palestine: Diary of a Siege (2021)***

89 min.

Written and directed by Abdallah Al Khatib.

Abdallah Al Khatib was a resident of Yarmouk, a district of Damascus, in Syria, that housed the largest Palestinian refugee camp in the world. In 2013, Bashar Al Assad decided that it was a hotbed of radicals and put it under siege, totally cutting it off from all outside help. In spite of the Palestinian residents' resilience and courage to help each other survive, 181 died as a direct result.

### ***Maradona's Legs (2019)***

20 min.

Written and directed by Firas Khoury.

During the 1990 World Cup, two young Palestinian boys are looking for "Maradona's Legs," which is the last missing sticker they need to complete their World Cup album and win a free Atari. Winner of fourteen awards. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Mediterranean Fever (2022)***

108 min.

Written and directed by Maha Haj.

Waleed lives in Haifa with his wife and children and dreams of a writing career while suffering from chronic depression. He develops a friendship with his neighbor who is a small-time crook. That relationship leads them into a journey of dark encounters. A 2022 official selection at the Cannes Film Festival. Watch on YouTube.

### ***Miral (2010)***

119 min.

Directed by Julian Schnabel. Adapted from a novel by Rula Jebreal.

In 1948 Hind Hussein transforms her father's house into an orphanage for children. Miral, a teenager who was raised and immersed in the institute's peaceful ways, leaves the orphanage to teach in a refugee camp. There she meets and falls in love with an activist who believes in armed struggle, and Miral will have to choose between supporting him or remaining true to the peaceful teachings of her mentors at the orphanage.

Watch on YouTube, Amazon Prime, Google Play, and Apple TV.

### ***My Love Awaits Me By the Sea (2013)***

80 min.

Directed by Mais Darwazah.

Darwazah's documentary is a personal essay on her experience as a second-generation Palestinian making her first trip to her homeland. She is accompanied by her imaginary lover Hassan. The film was inspired by the late author Hasan Hourani's life and work. Hourani was 29 when he drowned in 2003 while trying to save his nephew in the now-Israeli city of Jaffa. A

yearning for the sea is a thing of the past for all Palestinians living in the West Bank because they are not allowed to visit. While speaking of Hourani as her lover, she gradually makes clear that they have never actually met. It is a poetic meditation on what it means to be denied the chance to participate in a collective memory of normal life. Watch on YouTube.

### ***The Nightmare of Gaza (2018)***

14 min.

Written and directed by Farah Nabulsi.

This animated film is a haunting tale of a woman in the streets of Gaza surrounded by the devastation after the bombs have stopped. She has been helping others, but now it is she who needs help. This is the story of thousands of women who have to live through the nightmare that is Gaza, a city under siege since 2007.

### ***Omar (2013)***

98 min.

Written and directed by Hany Abu-Assad.

Arrested after the death of an Israeli soldier, a Palestinian baker agrees to work as an informant, but his true motives and alliances remain hidden. *Omar* was nominated for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***The Other Son (2012)***

105 min.

Directed by Lorraine Levy. Written by Sam Fitoussi.

Complex repercussions face two families, one Israeli, one Palestinian, after learning that their sons were accidentally switched at birth. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, Google Play, and Apple TV.

### ***Palestine Is Still the Issue (2002)***

53 min.

Directed by Tony Stark. Written by John Pilger.

A documentary about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that has lasted for more than seventy five years. In a series of extraordinary interviews with both Palestinians and Israelis, Australian reporter John Pilger weaves together the issue of Palestine and questions why there has been no progress toward peace.

### ***Paradise Now (2005)***

90 min.

Written and directed by Hany Abu-Assad.

Khalid and Said are Palestinian childhood friends recruited to become suicide bombers in Tel Aviv. They attempt to cross into Israel, but they are pursued by guards. Khaled returns, while

Said sneaks into Israel. After they both reunite to begin their mission again, Khaled has reconsidered and tries to convince Said to give up the bombing. The film won the Golden Globe Award for Best Foreign Feature Film. Watch on YouTube, Apple TV, and Google Play.

### ***Pomegranates and Myrrh (2008)***

93 min.

Written and directed by Najwa Najjar.

A free-spirited dancer, Kamar, finds herself the wife of a prisoner, Zaid, and away from everything she loves until she returns to the dance, defying society's taboos. Says director Najwa Najjar, "I wanted a Palestinian story. A story different to what the world was used to seeing—simply a story of Palestinians trying to live ordinary lives under extraordinary circumstances, which has been (and continues to be) overlooked. So we have to find the song, the dance of the human spirit within." Streaming on Netflix.

### ***The Present (2020)***

24 min.

Directed by Farah Nabulsi. Written by Farah Nabulsi and Hind Shoufani.

Yusef and his young daughter set out in the West Bank to buy his wife a gift on their anniversary. Between soldiers, segregated roads, and checkpoints, the shopping trip illustrates the reality for Palestinians living under the Israeli military occupation. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Live Action Short Film. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Rana's Wedding (2002)***

90 min.

Directed by Hany Abu-Assad. Written by Ihab Iamy and Liana Badr.

The film presents the Palestinian-Israeli conflict through a couple's marriage drama. It portrays the Palestinians' daily struggle to try and live a normal life amid the tension and political violence that surrounds them. It was the first film by a Palestinian director to reach the Cannes Film Festival and was selected for screening at the International Critics' Week in 2002.

### ***Salt of This Sea (2008)***

105 min.

Directed by Annemarie Jacir.

An official selection of the Cannes International Film Festival 2008, this film stars Palestinian-American poet Suheir Hammad as Soraya, an American-born Palestinian woman, who heads to Israel and Palestine on a quest to reclaim her family's home and money that were taken during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. It was Palestine's submission to the 81st Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***Samouni Road (2018)***

128 min.

Written and directed by Stefano Savona.

This documentary, partly real life and partly animated movie, depicts the horrifying story of the Samouni family in Gaza. The children have lost their parents, their houses and olive trees in the aftermath of the 2009 war. As their neighborhood is being rebuilt, they are about to celebrate a wedding in their extended family. Through these young survivors' recollections, *Samouni Road* conveys a portrait of a family before, during, and after the tragic event that changed its life forever. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***The Secret of Palestine (2023)***

50 min.

Directed and produced by Zain Ullah and Reel Knewz.

This documentary about the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza includes interviews with residents and victims in the Palestinian struggle for self-determination and independence.

### ***Soraida, a Woman from Palestine (2004)***

119 min.

Directed by Tahani Rached.

Soraida, a woman from Ramallah, tells her story of daily resistance to the stifling Israeli military occupation of the West Bank that the Palestinians have been living with since 1967. The film takes us into her neighborhood where she lives with her family, and we follow her daily existence as she navigates her way around the IDF soldiers, sometimes scoring small victories.

### ***Stitching Palestine (2017)***

78 min.

Directed by Carol Mansour. Written by Sahar Mandour.

Twelve resilient, articulate Palestinian women sit together and talk about their life before the diaspora. They come from all walks of life, but they weave a common thread as they talk about their memories and their usurped identity. They stitch together the story of their homeland and their unwavering determination that justice will prevail.

### ***The Stones Cry Out (2013)***

55 min.

Written and directed by Yasmine Perni.

In 1948 the history of Palestine changed forever. In the land where Christianity was born, little is said of the Christian minority. Tracing their roots back to the early Christians they lived side by side with Muslims and Jews for almost two thousand years. Watch on Apple TV.

***Tantura (2022)***

94 min.

Directed by Alon Schwartz.

In the war of 1948, hundreds of Palestinian villages were depopulated. This film investigate events at the Palestinian village of Tantura, where survivors claimed to have witnessed a massacre of civilians by Israeli troops. The dogged work of one Israeli researcher exposes the truth. A powerful account of atrocities and coverup at the highest level. Watch on YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, and Apple TV.

***The Tears of Gaza (2010)***

83 min.

Directed by Vibeke Lokkeberg.

This is a Norwegian documentary about one of the many wars on Gaza as seen through the eyes of a group of Palestinian children. Their narrative is accompanied by photographs taken by some of the residents and footage provided by the few journalists that were covering the war at the time. The film received the Human Rights Award for best feature film in Al Jazeera International Documentary Festival in 2011. Streaming on Netflix.

***3 Logical Exits (2020)***

15 min.

Written and directed by Mahdi Fleifel.

This short documentary is a sociological meditation on the different exits that young Palestinians choose in order to cope with life in the refugee camps. Winner of eleven awards. Streaming on Netflix.

***Three Promises (2023)***

61 min.

Directed by Yusef Srouji.

Set against the turbulent environment of Palestine's Second Intifada in the West Bank, a mother films her family's daily life, punctuated by time spent sheltering in the basement. Her son resists the past, conveying the anguish of many children who are forced to live under the constant threat of war and political violence.

***3000 Nights (2015)***

69 min.

Written and directed by Mai Masri.

Wrongly accused, a Palestinian newlywed is incarcerated in an Israeli high-security prison and soon discovers that she is pregnant. She gives birth to her son in an Israeli prison where she fights to protect him, survive, and maintain hope. Palestinian filmmaker Mai Masri was inspired by the true story and she shot the film in a real prison. It was selected as the Jordanian entry for

the Best Foreign Language Film at the 89th Academy Awards, but it was not nominated. Streaming on Netflix.

### ***The Time That Remains (2009)***

109 min.

Written and directed by Elia Suleiman.

This semi-biographical film by Palestinian director Elia Suleiman chronicles the life of his father and mother and their “silent” resistance through the turmoil of the Israeli invasion of Palestine from 1948 till the present. This film competed in the 2009 Cannes Film Festival and won the Jury Grand Prize at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards. Watch on Amazon Prime Video, and Apple TV.

### ***The Tower (2018)***

80 min.

Written and directed by Mats Grorud.

An animated film by Norwegian director and animator Mats Grorud of a young girl living in a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon who learns about her family’s history through stories told by three previous generations of refugees. Winner for Best Animation at the Nordisk Panorama Film Festival and for the Liv Ullman Peace Prize at the Chicago International Children’s Film Festival. Watch on Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV.

### ***Triumph67 (2010)***

99 min.

Directed by Dan Tanz.

After his brother dies suddenly, a Palestinian-American man reconnects with a woman from his past and forges a bond with a new family—but not without a cost. Watch on Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV.

### ***200 Meters (2020)***

97 min.

Written and directed by Amin Nayfeh.

Mostafa’s refusal to accept an Israeli identity card prevents the family from living together under one roof. But when his son is taken to a hospital on the other side of the separation wall, he will stop at nothing to reach his injured son. The film received nineteen awards and six nominations. Streaming on Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Google Play, and Apple TV.

***Wajib (2017)***

96 min.

Directed by Annemarie Jacir.

A father and his estranged son must come together to hand-deliver his daughter's wedding invitations to each guest. Driving around town in a battered Volvo, the two bicker and reminisce, and gradually reveal their complicated relationship. Watch on Amazon Prime Video.

***The Wall (2017)***

82 min.

Directed by Cam Christiansen.

As this animated documentary shows, the wall between Israel and Palestine has divided neighborhoods, property, and land. It is symbolic of the deep-rooted division between the two nations. Watch on Amazon Prime and Apple TV.

***The Wanted 18 (2014)***

75 min.

Directed by Paul Cowan and Amer Shomali.

The film is a Palestinian-Canadian animated documentary about the efforts of Palestinians in the West Bank town of Beit Sahour to start a small local dairy farm during the First Intifada. They have to hide their herd of eighteen cows from the Israeli security forces because they were deemed a threat to Israeli national security. The film was the Palestinian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 88th Academy Awards. Watch on YouTube, Apple TV, and Google Play.

***When I Saw You (2012)***

98 min.

Written and directed by Annemarie Jacir.

A young boy and his mother living in a refugee camp attempt to cross the border from Palestine to Jordan, and they run into the mandatory harassment from the Israeli military patrol. Jacir remains true to a child's-eye view of the feeling of alienation and displacement experienced by all Palestinian refugees. Watch on YouTube, Amazon Prime, and Apple TV.

***With God on Our Side (2010)***

22 min.

Directed by Porter Speakman Jr.

This film takes a hard look at the theology and politics of Christian Zionism, which teaches that because Jews are God's chosen people, Israeli government policies should not be questioned, even when these policies are unjust. Watch on Amazon Prime Video and Netflix.

***A World Not Ours (2012)***

93 min.

Written and directed by Mahdi Fleifel.

A portrait of three generations of exiled Palestinians living in the refugee camp of Ein el-Helweh, in southern Lebanon. The film is based on personal recordings, family archives, and historical footage. It is an illuminating study of belonging, friendship, family, and daily yearning in the lives of those for whom dispossession is the norm. Streaming on Netflix.

***Yallah Gaza (2023)***

101 min.

Directed by Roland Nurier.

The film explores history, Palestinian politics, and international law, and bears witness to the daily struggle that keeps despair at bay as Palestinians pass their culture and their land from one generation to the next.